

2008

# Washington University Magazine, Summer 2008

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# Washington University

## in St. Louis

SUMMER 2008 MAGAZINE



### Peanuts' Promise

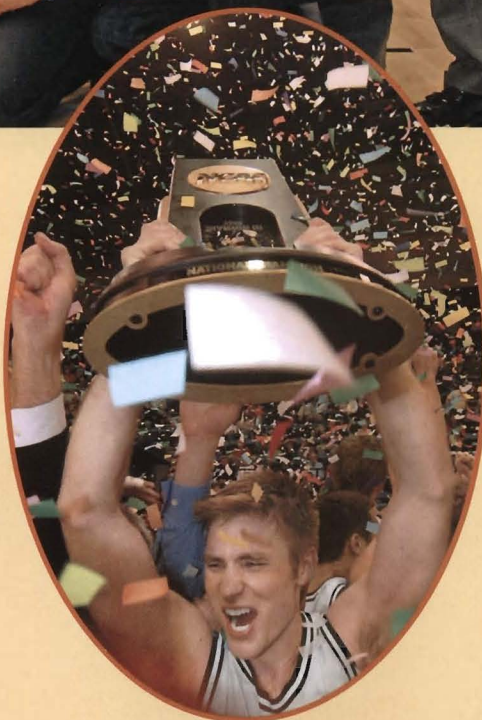
Mark Manary, professor of pediatrics, works to alleviate childhood malnutrition in Africa with a peanut-based recipe.







**Bears March to Victory** The men's basketball team defeated Amherst College, 90-68, to win its first NCAA Division III Men's Basketball National Championship on March 22. Senior Troy Ruths (right) scored 33 points to lead the Bears past Amherst, the defending national champions, at the Salem Civic Center in Salem, Virginia. Mark Edwards, A.B. '69, who improved his overall coaching record to 477-233 in 27 seasons, was named The UPS Store/NABC Division III Coach of the Year. Ruths, who was named the Most Outstanding Player of the NCAA Championship, was awarded the prestigious Jostens Trophy as the Division III Player of the Year. In the championship game, he was 9-of-13 from the field and hit a career-high 15-of-17 from the foul line. Sophomore Aaron Thompson added 19 points and four assists, and joined Ruths on the All-Tournament Team. Overall, the Bears shot 60 percent (30-50) from the field for the game, including a sizzling 70 percent (14-20) in the second half. Washington U. also hit 23-of-28 (82.1 percent) from the foul line in the victory. The Division III Championship is the first for any men's team at the University.



Photos by Joe Angeles





# Washington University in St. Louis

SUMMER 2008 MAGAZINE



Alumna Terri Libenson creates a syndicated comic strip, *The Pajama Diaries*. She draws inspiration from her life and the lives of her friends and fans (page 28).

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A.E. Hotchner, A.B. '40, J.D. '40, charts a literary life; important sidebars include a flourishing business with Paul Newman and sponsorship of a youth camp.
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Washington University clubs keep alumni connected with their communities and with the University.
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- 48 **Washington Spirit**  
As dean of the Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, Robert E. Thach redefined graduate education at the University and beyond.

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Cover: Mark Manary (inset), professor of pediatrics, is fighting child malnutrition in Malawi and Sierra Leone, Africa, using a peanut-based ready-to-use therapeutic food. (Photos: Jeanne Gibbons; collage: Donna Boyd)

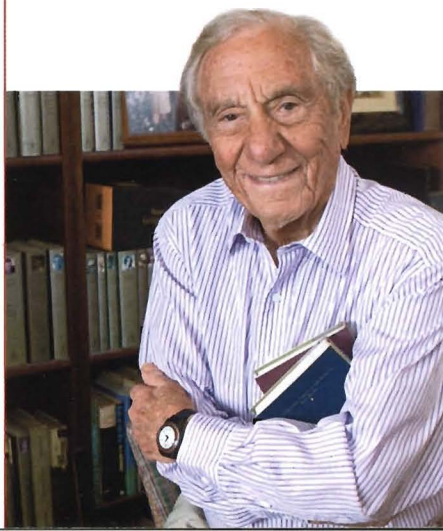


Sylvia Hardy, who studied art and anthropology, participated in research opportunities as an undergraduate (page 17).



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Alumna Terri Libenson draws from real-life ups and downs to create the funny and thoughtful syndicated comic strip, *The Pajama Diaries*.
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The Linus Foundation's board of directors consists of four young alumni. Sponsoring social events in six cities, they support fun, innovative programs that empower kids.



A.E. Hotchner's life has been riveting, from meeting and writing about famous authors to helping children with life-threatening illnesses (page 34).



## Agent for Change Advocates for Organ Donations

In 2003, Carson Smith, Arts & Sciences Class of '09, was diagnosed with pulmonary hypertension (high blood pressure in the lungs). In addition, she has pulmonary veno occlusive disease (PVOD), a rare condition where fibrous materials grow in the veins of the lungs. Smith is on the waiting list at Children's Hospital for a double lung transplant—the only known cure for PVOD.

"As soon as I was diagnosed, I began educating others about pulmonary hypertension and the importance of organ donation," she says. Smith spoke at civic groups in her hometown of Paducah, Kentucky, and served as the "poster girl" for a team that was raising money for the Children's Organ Transplant Association.

With Smith's help, the team raised more than \$200,000. This accomplishment earned her a spot on Toyota's "100 Young People Most Likely to Change the World" list.



Carson Smith (left) catches up with Michael Rodriguez, both Arts & Sciences Class of '09. Diagnosed with pulmonary hypertension and pulmonary veno occlusive disease, Smith is awaiting a double lung transplant. She works to raise awareness of pulmonary hypertension and organ donation.

During summer 2007, Smith interned at the Pulmonary Hypertension Association in the advocacy department.

"I so much want people to be aware of this illness and the way it can disrupt your life," she says. "Having a strong support network is key to sustaining as normal a life as possible, and that is hard to achieve when so few people know about pulmonary hypertension."

After being contacted by Second Wind-St. Louis, a non-profit organization that assists people in the area who have undergone or are awaiting lung transplant surgery, Smith served as speaker and co-host of their Lung Walk 5K fundraiser, held in October 2007.

With Smith's help, the team raised more than **\$200,000** for the organization. This accomplishment earned her a spot on Toyota's "100 Young People Most Likely to Change the World" list.

She also promoted the walk by doing interviews for television and radio.

"I hope to be a part of the lung walk this coming year," she says. "It is a wonderful event for a great cause."

After graduation, Smith is considering a career in public health policy or hospital administration.

"No matter what, I hope I can continue to educate people and make the lives of patients easier," she says.

David Kilper

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## University Sponsors KIPP Charter School in St. Louis

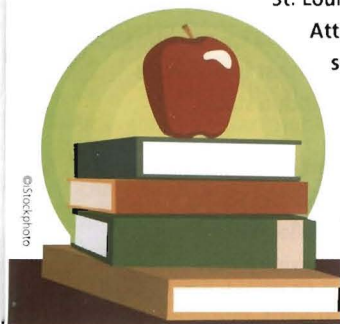
Washington University will serve as institutional sponsor of the St. Louis area's first-ever KIPP (Knowledge Is Power Program) charter school, announces Greg Wendt, organizer of

St. Louisans United to Attract KIPP. The school is scheduled to open in fall 2009.

KIPP is a network of free, college-preparatory public schools in

under-resourced communities throughout the United States. The program has been recognized for its success in putting students on the path to college; nearly 80 percent of KIPP alumni have matriculated to college. Like all Missouri charter schools, the KIPP school will be a public school, open to any student who lives in the city of St. Louis.

"Along with our existing outreach programs, sponsorship of this charter school is one of many opportunities for Washington University to have a positive influence on public, K-12 education in the St. Louis region," says Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton.



## LEAPS Takes High School Students from Classroom to Law School

Law school students collaborated with the Mound City Bar Association lawyers to encourage juniors and seniors

at Soldan High School in St. Louis to pursue law school. During the fall, students in

Professor Kim Norwood's

course Race, Education & the Legal Profession participated in the new program, which Norwood calls Law Exposure and Professionalism Strategies (LEAPS).

Many of the law students will continue as volunteer mentors to the 18 high school students, offering workshops on college admissions, SAT and ACT exams, résumé writing, and interviewing.

*Kim Norwood, professor of law, encourages Soldan High School students to pursue law school.*



## Chancellor Wrighton Receives Citizen of the Year Award

Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton was named St. Louis' 2007 Citizen of the Year by the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*. A ceremony, held on March 25, 2008, honored Wrighton and highlighted his accomplishments and the University's contributions to the St. Louis region during his tenure. For more information, see [news-info.wustl.edu/news/page/normal/11336.html](http://news-info.wustl.edu/news/page/normal/11336.html).



*Michael Wyssession, associate professor of earth & planetary sciences, bends a stack of colored cards to replicate the folding of the Earth's layers.*

## Video Series Explains Earth's History

Michael E. Wyssession, associate professor of earth & planetary sciences in Arts & Sciences, has 48 lectures on planet Earth that came out in video format in February 2008. Each 30-minute lecture focuses on an aspect of the Earth, from its origins and composition to its climate, orbit, pollution, and relationship to human history. Wyssession also wrote a 250-page book to accompany the lectures.

"I designed the lectures to give someone a full sense of the history of the Earth and how it works," he says. "To me, it's a real mission to increase people's understanding of the fundamental issues involved with the Earth, pollution, evolution, climate change, and the environment."

Much of the material for the videos comes from a course, Earth and the Environment, that Wyssession has co-taught at the University for more than 15 years.

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## Sequencing 1,000 Human Genomes

The School of Medicine will play a leading role in an international collaboration to sequence the genomes of 1,000 individuals. The ambitious 1,000 Genomes Project is designed to create the most detailed picture to date of human genetic

variation and assist in the identification of many genetic factors underlying common diseases.

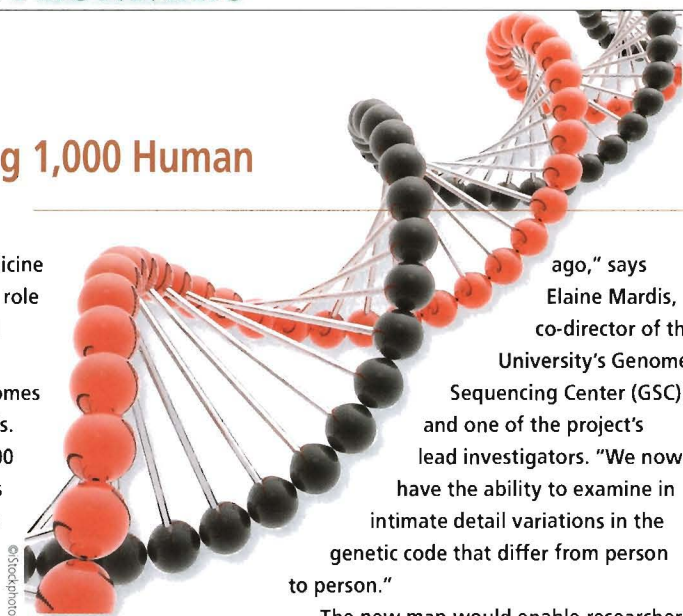
Drawing on the expertise of research teams in the United States, China, and England, the project will develop a new map of the human genome that will provide a close-up view of medically relevant DNA variations at a resolution unmatched by current technology. As with other major human genome reference projects, data from the 1,000 Genomes Project will be made swiftly available to the worldwide scientific community through free public databases.

"A project like this would have been unimaginable only a few years

ago," says Elaine Mardis, co-director of the University's Genome Sequencing Center (GSC) and one of the project's lead investigators. "We now have the ability to examine in intimate detail variations in the genetic code that differ from person to person."

The new map would enable researchers to more quickly zero in on disease-related genetic alterations, speeding efforts to use genetic information to develop new strategies for diagnosing, treating, and preventing common diseases.

"Our best chance of knowing why some people remain healthy well into their 90s and others develop illnesses at an early age is to understand the numerous genetic variations that exist within humans," says Richard K. Wilson, director of GSC and professor of genetics and of microbiology in the School of Medicine. "This project will accelerate efforts to pinpoint the many genetic factors that underlie human health and disease."



## Women's Golf Debuts

John Schael, director of athletics, announced the addition of women's golf to the University's intercollegiate athletics program to begin play during the 2008–2009 season. Sean Curtis, director of intramurals and club sports, who coached the team the past two seasons while participating at club status, will lead the squad.

"With the support of the University's administration and Gender Equity Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics, we are pleased to provide a new opportunity for Washington University's students in competitive intercollegiate athletics," says Schael. "I am proud of the students who laid the foundation for intercollegiate golf, and I look forward to the program's continued growth, development, and advancement."



## Independent 529 Plan Helps Parents with Tuition

Independent 529 Plan is a cooperative effort by a national group of private colleges and universities, including

Washington University, to help families manage the rising cost of higher education. Under the program, individuals can purchase tuition certificates at less than the current tuition rate for future redemption at any of 270-plus participating private colleges and universities nationwide.

These prepayment certificates became available in 2003, and the

certificates must be held at least three years before redemption. As a result, 2006–2007 was the first academic year that redemption was possible, says Nancy Farmer, the organization's president and a St. Louis resident. When she became president, she relocated the Independent 529 Plan's offices from New Mexico to a building on the University's campus.

Rodney and Susan Barstein became the first parents of a Washington University student to redeem Independent 529 Plan tuition prepayment certificates. Their son,

Justin, studied finance and economics, and just graduated in 2008.

Independent 529 Plan allows families to lock in tuition rates at less than present levels for their children's future use. They end up paying slightly less than current tuition because each participating school discounts the tuition certificates by at least one-half of 1 percent per year.



For more information, see [www.independent529plan.org](http://www.independent529plan.org).



# Experiencing Emergency Medicine Firsthand

**F**or eight hours each week, students in the Pediatric Emergency Medicine Research Associates' Program (PEMRAP) work shifts in the St. Louis Children's Hospital Emergency Department. On their own computerized board, they constantly scan patients for eligibility for clinical studies ranging from asthma to sickle cell disease.

If they see a patient who might be eligible, they introduce themselves to the family, explain the study, and obtain informed consent from the parent. They also administer study questionnaires, occasionally videotape interviews, and help the family complete other study requirements.

"PEMRAP enables these students to become an integral and valued part of the health-care team," says Jan D. Luhmann, an assistant professor of pediatrics and a PEMRAP co-director who started the program in 2002. "Not only do they learn about clinical research, but they also have the opportunity to see firsthand how physicians and nurses work in a busy clinical setting. When not enrolling patients into one of the many clinical trials, students observe emergency procedures such as suturing or fracture reductions. The combination of clinical research and exposure to pediatric emergency medicine provides a unique opportunity."

"Not only do they learn about clinical research, but they also have the opportunity to see **firsthand how physicians and nurses** work in a busy clinical setting."

PEMRAP chief research associate Colleen Moreland, Arts & Sciences Class of '08, shows a young patient at St. Louis Children's Hospital Emergency Department what to expect when the physician applies a splint to immobilize his forearm. The boy had suffered a fracture in a fall.

David Kilper

Since PEMRAP's inception, students have enrolled more than 3,000 subjects in 18 clinical studies.

Students can receive credit for the program for only one semester. However, more than 80 percent of students continue in PEMRAP as volunteers, Luhmann says. The volunteer requirements are less stringent—they only work four hours a week and do not have to attend lectures.

Many PEMRAP students decide to pursue medicine, and Luhmann often gets notes from students in medical school, thanking her for the PEMRAP experience and telling her how valuable it was to get a firsthand look at life in the emergency department.

## Sam Fox School Students Create Room of Their Own

As part of a design/build studio led by Carl Safe, professor of architecture in the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts, students have been working on a new gallery/architecture review room in Steinberg Hall.

The new room is located on the building's podium level in a space that previously housed the Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum. The review room contains a large gallery that also can be used for major critiques and is surrounded by several smaller review spaces. The project, which is nearing completion, was funded by the Sam Fox School and its College of Architecture with support from the University.

Sam Fox School graduate students Michael Heller (left) and Sujaul Khan work on a new gallery/architecture review room in Steinberg Hall.

David Kilper



## Reducing Mercury Emissions

**W**ashington University is partnering with Chrysler LLC and a major Midwest utility company in a project to determine if paint solid residues from automobile manufacturing can reduce emissions of mercury from electric power plants.

The project is based upon the technical expertise of Pratim Biswas, the Stifel & Quinette Jens Professor of Environmental Engineering Science, who has demonstrated the effectiveness of titanium dioxide in controlling mercury in lab and recent field studies. He heads the project that will test a mercury removal process in a full-scale power plant.

In the initial phase, the project produces enough electricity

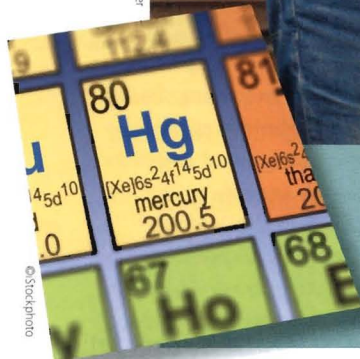
to power **70 homes for a year.**

Since 2007, Chrysler has recycled dry paint solid residues from its St. Louis assembly plants for use as an alternative fuel in Ameren Corporation's Meramec electric utility plant. Previously, Chrysler's St. Louis plants sent 1 million pounds of dried paint solids to landfills each year.

The paint solid residues contain titanium dioxide, which has the potential to remove mercury from coal-powered



K. Peebles (left), a supervisor at Chrysler Corporation, and Pratim Biswas, the Stifel & Quinette Jens Professor of Environmental Engineering Science, discuss operational conditions for mixing residual paint solids from Chrysler with coal for energy recovery at Ameren's Meramec Electricity Generation Plant.



plant emissions without affecting other processes in the plant. Mercury is chemically bonded with titanium oxide, a process known as chemisorption, and thus is potentially easier to trap in the plant's emissions scrubber system, research has found.

Through its collaboration with Chrysler's St. Louis assembly plants, Ameren's 855-megawatt Meramec power plant is the first in the nation to generate electricity by burning paint solids recovered from an automotive manufacturing facility. In the initial phase, the project produces enough electricity to power 70 homes for a year.

## Wolff Gift Establishes Biomedical Institute at the School of Medicine

The Alan A. and Edith L. Wolff Institute, which will support biomedical research at the School of Medicine, was established with a \$20 million gift from St. Louis



Edith L. Wolff

businesswoman and philanthropist Edith L. Wolff. Biomedical research at the institute could lead to the prevention, treatment, and cure of disease.

"Mrs. Wolff's commitment to the School of Medicine will enhance research efforts within many of our departments and have a profound positive impact on our research mission," says Larry J. Shapiro, executive vice chancellor for medical affairs, dean of the School of Medicine, and the Spencer T. and Ann W. Olin Distinguished Professor of Pediatrics. "I'm thankful for her generosity, which will enable interdisciplinary research that is so essential to progress in modern biomedical science."



## Twenty Entrepreneurial Internships Created with Gift

A new internship program will enable 20 interns per year to participate in an intensive summer experience. The students will receive both hands-on instruction and academic information about developing and sustaining new enterprises. This program, the Skandalaris Center Internship Program, is being created and supported by a \$1 million gift from Robert and Julie Skandalaris.

"Through their initial support, the Skandalaries provided a solid foothold for entrepreneurship at Washington University," says Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton. "Over the last eight years, their ongoing support has fueled the growth of a comprehensive program that promotes entrepreneurship across all schools within the University and has made us a leader in entrepreneurial studies."



Ken Harrington, managing director of the Skandalaris Center for Entrepreneurial Studies, will oversee the internship program. During the course of the summer, the interns will spend time working for new and emerging businesses or social-service organizations in the St. Louis region. The interns also will attend weekly sessions where faculty and guest speakers discuss the process of starting and growing a company.

"The experience will serve as a valuable means for students to learn how to establish their entrepreneurial ventures and projects," says Harrington.

## Helium Supplies Running Out of Gas

The element that lifts things like balloons, spirits, and voice ranges is being depleted so rapidly in the world's largest reserve, outside of Amarillo, Texas, that supplies are expected to be exhausted there within the next eight years.

"Helium's use in science is extremely broad, but its most important use is as a coolant," says Lee Sobotka, professor of chemistry and physics in Arts & Sciences.

Among other technological applications, helium plays a role in nuclear magnetic resonance, mass spectroscopy, welding, fiber optics, and computer microchip production.

"Helium is nonrenewable and irreplaceable," says Sobotka. "Its properties are unique, and there are no biosynthetic ways to make an alternative to helium. All should make better efforts to recycle it."

**WILLIAM F. HOWARD**, a longtime higher-education attorney, was appointed associate vice chancellor and chief counsel to the School of Medicine. In addition, Howard also will serve as deputy general counsel for the University.

**GARLAND MARSHALL**, professor of biochemistry and molecular biophysics, was inducted into the Medicinal Chemistry Hall of Fame's inaugural class. The Hall of Fame recognizes medicinal chemists who have made overall outstanding contributions to medicinal chemistry through research, teaching, and service.

**A. PETER MUTHARIKA**, professor of law, was named Malawi's chief advisor to the president on constitutional, legal, and international affairs.

Three faculty members received 2008–2009 Carol B. and Jerome T. Loeb Teaching Fellowships at the medical school: **THOMAS DE FER**, associate professor of medicine; **JAMES FEHR III**, assistant professor of anesthesiology and of pediatrics; and **MARY KLINGENSMITH**, associate professor of surgery.

Three faculty members were named to endowed professorships in Arts & Sciences: **JEAN ALLMAN**, former director of the Center for African Studies at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, as the J. H. Hexter Professor in the Humanities; **CARL BENDER**, professor of physics, as the Wilfred R. and Ann Lee Konneker Distinguished Professor of Physics; and **MICHELE BOLDRIN**, professor of economics, as the Joseph Gibson Hoyt Distinguished Professor of Economics.

On the Web For more "Honors," see [www.magazine.wustl.edu/](http://www.magazine.wustl.edu/).

One way to recycle helium would be to recapture helium vapor, says Sobotka. Helium vapor is produced when helium is used as a coolant. Placing liquid helium next to an object extracts energy from the object, making it colder. The energy extracted from the object vaporizes the helium. It is this helium vapor that, Sobotka says, should always be recaptured, to be recycled for future use.



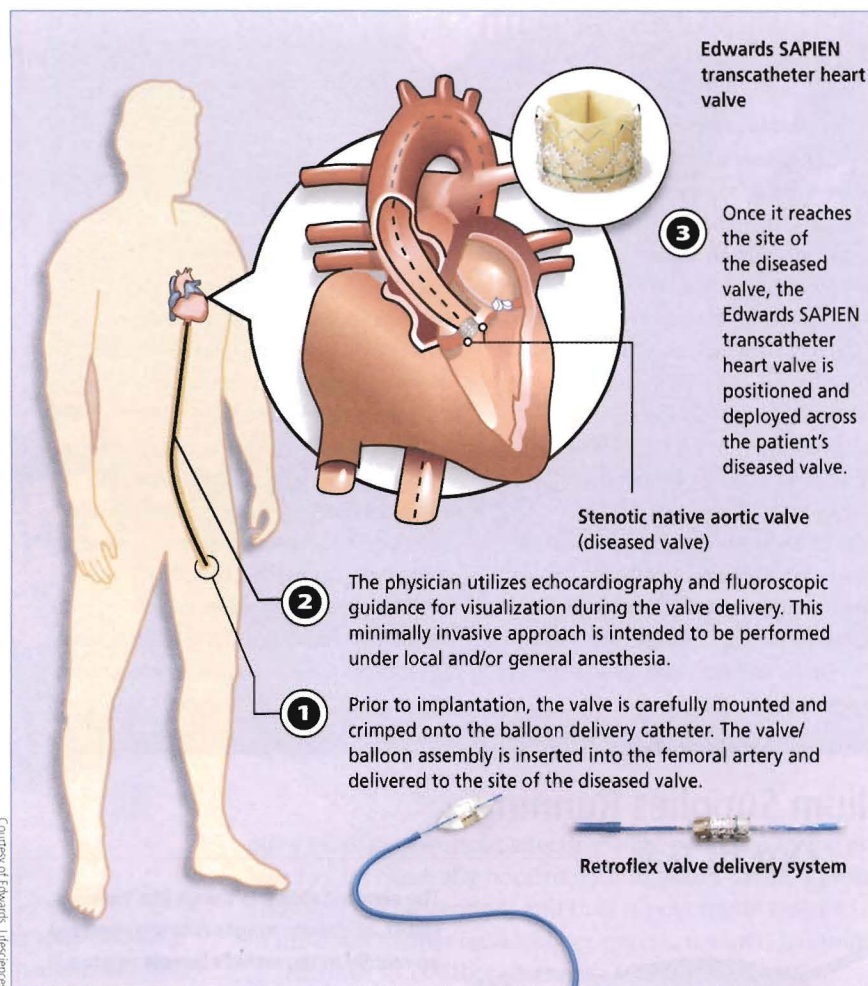
## Experimental Heart Valve Saves Life

A 78-year-old St. Louis woman was the first patient in this region to receive an experimental device to replace her defective aortic valve without opening the chest wall or using a heart-lung machine. Washington University heart specialists performed the procedure at Barnes-Jewish Hospital on January 15, 2008.

The woman is an initial participant in a national multicenter trial to evaluate the effectiveness of the new device. If proven effective, this device holds enormous hope for patients who are unable to undergo the standard open-heart surgery for aortic valve replacement because they are too old or too sick to qualify for the surgery.

This technique, called transcatheter valve replacement, uses a catheter to thread a replacement aortic valve into the heart. The valve can be guided through the patient's circulatory system from the leg or inserted between the ribs into the heart and expanded at the site of the diseased valve.

"Pending the study's outcome, this has the potential to be one of the most significant advances in all of cardiac medicine," says John M. Lasala, principal investigator of the trial and professor of medicine at the School of Medicine. Lasala also is medical director of the cardiac catheterization laboratory at Barnes-Jewish Hospital.



## Financial Freedom Focus of Social Work Seminar

The Society of Black Student Social Workers at the George Warren Brown School of Social Work held an event for members of the St. Louis community on February 2, 2008. The event, "Financial Freedom Seminar: Achieving Economic Independence through Education," included workshops on building wealth, repairing and maintaining good credit, purchasing a home, and starting and expanding a business.

The seminar began with a keynote address by Bessie House-Soremekun, founder and CEO of the National Center for Entrepreneurship Inc.



Sheba Wadley (left), social work graduate student and co-chair of the Society of Black Student Social Workers, greets Bessie House-Soremekun, founder and CEO of the National Center for Entrepreneurship Inc., on February 2, 2008, in Goldfarb Hall Commons.

## Global Warming Teach-In Held

Washington University joined hundreds of campuses across the United States in presenting "Focus the Nation," an unprecedented nationwide teach-in on global warming solutions, on January 30, 2008.

The event began with a presentation by Dee Gish, a volunteer with The Climate Project. Then the "2 Percent Solution" Webcast was shown. Following the Webcast, attendees were able to discuss initiatives the University could undertake to address global climate change. The global warming teach-in was sponsored by I-CARES and the Office of Sustainability.





## Recognizing the Importance of Planned Gifts ■ Washington University in St. Louis

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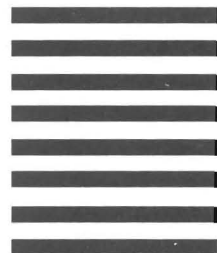
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*Emily Smith, A.B. '64, M.D. '68, Assistant Professor of Radiology, with one of her recent Scholars in Medicine award recipients, Karrie Tomiska Amor, M.D. '07*

*"I want to give back because I have received so much from the medical school, and it has been such an important part of my life."*

— Emily Smith, M.D.

## Create your own legacy at Washington University.

A longtime, loyal Washington University supporter, Dr. Emily Smith has created her legacy at the School of Medicine. Through a bequest, she has designated portions of her estate for the School's unrestricted use, as well as for establishing named endowed funds for facilities, scholarships, and a teaching fellowship.

Consider a gift through your estate to establish your legacy and support Washington University. Estate gifts may be through your will, trust, or beneficiary designations on individual retirement accounts and life insurance. One could be right for you if you want to:

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# 'Gettin' Down' to Lift Children Up

BY BETSY ROGERS

**F**or one dazzling night each fall, dancers move in step at the Athletic Complex. It may not be Marie Osmond or Jason Taylor of "Dancing with the Stars." But it's University students Greg Perlstein and Lauren Statman and hundreds of others dancing for Dance Marathon. In its ninth season at Washington University, the 12-hour dance-a-thon eliminates no one but lifts the hopes and dreams of children by raising donations for the Children's Miracle Network.

"It feels like magic," says Lauren Statman, 2008 executive director and Arts & Sciences

Class of '09. And the word "magic" often comes up in conversations with students and staff alike when discussing Dance Marathon (DM). Captivating definitely applies both to the event's own super-charged excitement and to its fundraising success.

Of course, DM's success results not from magic but from hard work, high-level organization, and the students' creativity.

In the past two years, the St. Louis Area Dance Marathon, organized and staged by Washington University students, has achieved dramatic growth in the funds it raises for the Children's Miracle Network ([www.cmn-stl.org/](http://www.cmn-stl.org/)). In 2005, this spirited extravaganza raised just over \$71,000. In 2006, the total was \$123,000. Last November 3, the 800-plus dancers tallied an astonishing \$176,342.

"We set high goals, but we never expected to surpass them by so much," says Greg Perlstein, Dance Marathon's 2007 executive director and Arts & Sciences Class of '08.

Stephanie Kurtzman, director of the University's Community Service Office and associate director of the Gephardt Institute for Public Service, acknowledges that staff advisors expected Dance Marathon over the years to level off at the \$50,000 to \$60,000 range. "The growth in the last two years has been monumental," she says.

And students drive this growth, says Julie Breckenkamp, Children's Miracle Network development associate and Washington University liaison. "They don't miss a beat," she says.

"They are the most amazing, intelligent, and well-organized group of students."

For the 2008 Dance Marathon, a 28-student board began working in January. The effort will continue



Whitney Curtis

*Tavares Allen, Arts & Sciences Class of '09, dances with the Village People team during the St. Louis Area Dance Marathon on Saturday, November 3, 2007, in the Athletic Complex. The student-organized fundraiser benefited the Children's Miracle Network.*



through summer vacation, as well as long-distance, in Chile, Spain, Italy, England, and Scotland, for those members who study abroad.

Board members take on specific functions, such as finance, logistics, involvement, or communications. For the first time, the 2008 board includes a Fontbonne University student, reflecting an ongoing commitment to extend DM's reach to other area college campuses and to high schools.

The close-knit board is like family, says Statman. At the same time, its professionalism is striking. "Every year, the students think more strategically about corporate underwriting and about keeping the campus connected to the mission," Kurtzman says.

**C**hildren's Miracle Network (CMN) raises money nationally for children's hospitals. But local organizations shape their own CMN marathons. "Always imaginative, our students invent much of the event's design and traditions," Kurtzman says.

As an example, the 2007 board worked closely with Risa Zwerling Wrighton (Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton's wife), the event's honorary chair, to increase faculty and staff participation. The chancellor donated \$9 for each of the 50+ plus faculty and staff members who attended.

"Students taught us the electric slide, and then we marched into the gym," Kurtzman continues. "Hundreds parted the waters, so to speak, and 50 of us went right up on stage, and Risa and Jim McLeod led us in the dance. It was incredibly creative."

Another example: To expedite check-in for 800-plus dancers, organizers designed an online system whereby participants could print out bar-coded tickets, much like an airline boarding pass, to be scanned upon arrival. "I never saw a line, not once," says Sarah Tillery, staff coordinator for community service and DM advisor.

In St. Louis, CMN divides its support equally between Children's and Cardinal Glennon hospitals. At Children's, DM proceeds have helped finance reconstruction of the pediatric and neonatal intensive care units. At Cardinal Glennon, they support the Bob Costas Cancer Center, where children receive nonresidential treatment.

Every dime dancers raise goes to the hospitals. Indeed, that's one reason that DM is a yearlong effort. Board members work from January on to raise money to cover operating costs. Staging the event—from sound, lighting, and video equipment, to renting

tables and chairs—costs roughly \$20,000. This year the board won grants from the Build-A-Bear Workshop® Bear Hugs Foundation and Sigma Corporation to augment fundraising and Student Union support.

They also work tirelessly to raise the Dance Marathon profile. During 2007 Orientation week, DM organizers helped freshmen move into their dorms. They staffed a South 40

information booth. They organized "Step out for S'mores" outside a big Orientation

dance. In early September, they were in Bowles Plaza, giving away T-shirts and registering participants. During Parents Weekend, they returned to Bowles, dancing their hearts out and serving free pizza.


Dance Marathon, then, is a series of events, designed to recruit dancers, raise funds, and promote both DM and CMN. Even the marathon itself is many events in one. There are performances, competitions, and food. A Family Tent provides games, giant inflatables, arts and crafts for CMN's "miracle children"—those who have healed from their illnesses—and their families. There's an auction and a raffle.

And then, of course, there's dancing.

Planners choose a theme for each of DM's 12 hours. The music reflects the theme—country, for instance, or Disney or hip-hop. Many dancers change costumes each hour. "Some actually change clothes 12 times," Statman says.

And speaking to being on your feet for virtually 12 hours, Statman says, "We stand in support of miracle children and dance for those who can't right now."

Dance Marathon culminates in an inspirational 1:30 a.m. closing ceremony. The ceremony recognizes top fundraisers and announces total earnings. Someone from a "miracle family" speaks. Last year, the speakers were the parents of Ella Prickett, CMN's 2005 Ambassador Child who, tragically, relapsed and died in 2006.

"Ella was one of those amazing kids who lit up the whole gym," Perlstein recalls. "Her parents talked about her and about everything we had done for CMN. They emphasized the ability we have to make an impact, not just through Dance Marathon but for the rest of our lives." 

Betsy Rogers is a freelance writer based in Belleville, Illinois.

**"We stand in support of miracle children and dance for those who can't right now."**



# A Recipe to SAVE

Professors Mark Manary and Patricia Wolff work tirelessly to end child malnutrition in Africa and Haiti, respectively. Their use of a peanut-based ready-to-use therapeutic food shows encouraging results. BY TERRI McCLAIN

**W**orldwide, half of all child deaths are caused by malnutrition, and nearly 20 million children under the age of 5 are severely malnourished. In countries such as Bangladesh and Sierra Leone, the mortality rate for these children is 20 percent or more, and among those who survive, recovery rates are low. Malnourished children are prone to infection and disease; many never achieve normal growth.

For decades, doctors and relief organizations treated malnourished children with a milk-based feeding program in health facilities. However, the mortality rate remained high, the recovery rate was dismal, and children succumbed to infections or diseases acquired from others in crowded health wards.

For Mark Manary, M.D. '82, professor of pediatrics, the battle against childhood

*Ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF) is an inexpensive, lipid-dense paste made with peanuts, sugar, oil, powdered milk, and added nutrients. Right: A mother feeds her young son RUTF in Malawi. Background: Professor Mark Manary also is working with plant scientists to improve the nutritional value of cassava, a staple crop of many African countries.*

Peanuts: Courtesy Photo;  
Background: Jeanne Gibbons



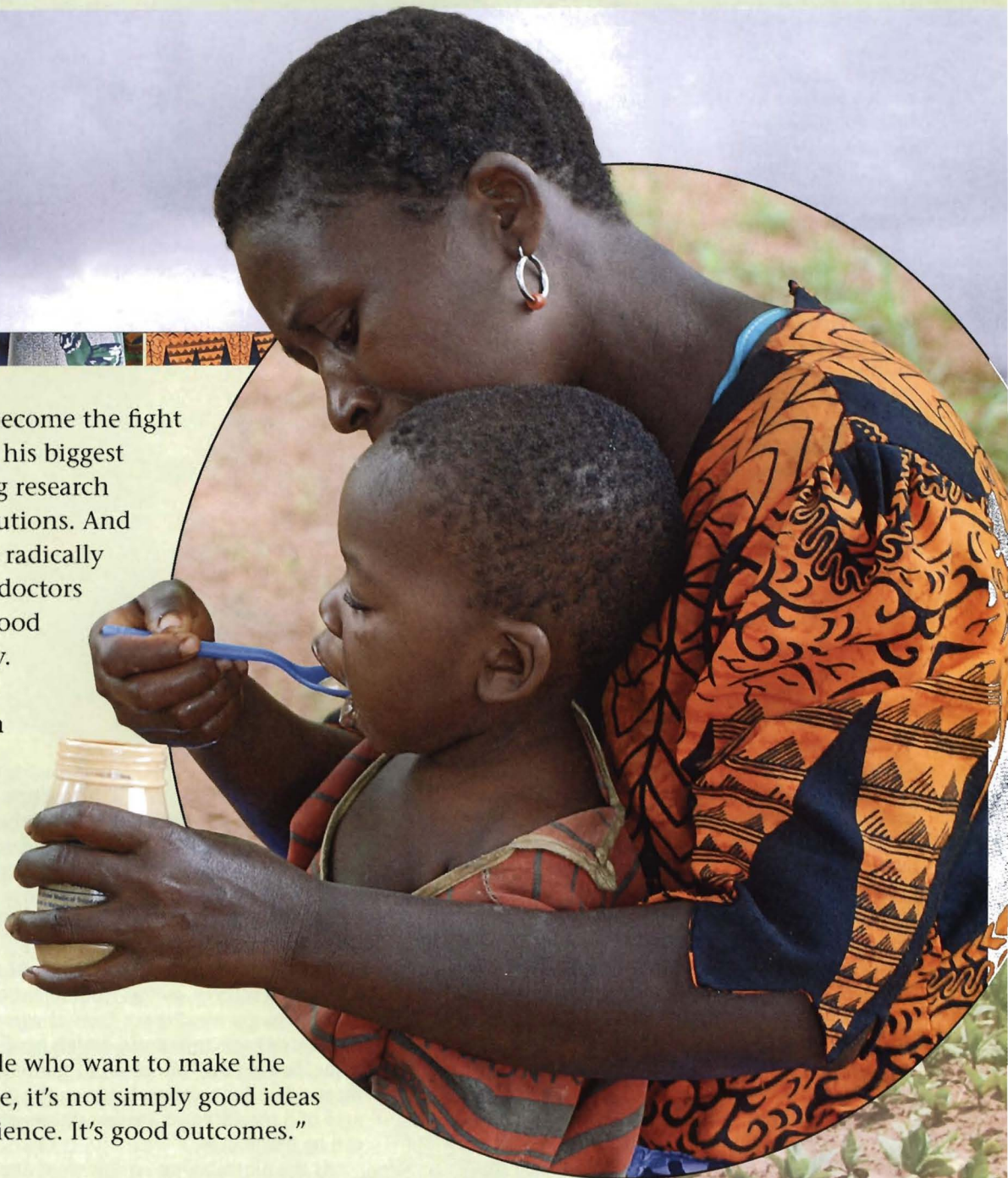


# YOUNG LIVES

malnutrition has become the fight of his life. Perhaps his biggest talent is converting research into real-world solutions. And these solutions are radically changing the way doctors treat severe childhood malnutrition today.

"For every good idea that we test in a research project, only one in 10 actually works," says the former Fulbright scholar. "Often, we've emphasized innovation, but not operation.

However, for people who want to make the world a better place, it's not simply good ideas that make good science. It's good outcomes."





Mark Manary (left), professor of pediatrics, began field testing peanut-based ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF) in 2001. In Malawi, children fed a complete six-week RUTF diet at home had a 95 percent recovery rate.

**A**fter earning a bachelor of science degree in chemistry and chemical engineering from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Manary decided to pursue a medical career. He attended Washington University School of Medicine, followed by an internship and residency at St. Louis Children's Hospital.

When Manary finished his pediatric training in 1985, his wife, Mardi, suggested they work in Africa. "My wife is a nurse, and she taught nursing students," Manary says. "I was the only doctor in a 150-bed hospital that usually had more than 300 patients at any one time." And they loved working there because they could see the difference they were making every day.

"Our first child was born in Tanzania, but, sadly, he died there," Manary says, "and that was very hard on our families. We came back to the States for them, but we didn't give up on going back to Africa again."

In 1989, after serving two years as the medical officer at the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation in Eagle Butte, South Dakota, Manary returned to St. Louis to work as an instructor in pediatrics at the University's medical school. He also was an attending physician in the emergency unit of St. Louis Children's Hospital, a position he still holds.

But Manary retained a passion for international work. In 1994, he took a leave of absence, moving with his wife and two young children to the small, impoverished African country of Malawi. As senior lecturer in pediatrics at the Medical College of Malawi in Blantyre, he took charge of the malnutrition ward at Queen Elizabeth Central Hospital.

"It was an awful place, overcrowded and unsanitary, and it had rats," Manary says. "So we threw our hearts and souls into that particular unit. I didn't know much about taking care of severely

malnourished kids, but I learned a lot over those first months."

He quickly saw that the standard therapeutic approach was a failure. During times of famine, relief organizations swooped in to address the crisis, then left without a long-term solution. The key to success, he realized, was to create a program that could function within the framework of the country's own limited resources.

Malawi, a densely populated, land-locked country with few resources, suffers from relentless poverty. Most Malawians are subsistence farmers whose diet consists almost entirely of corn and beans, which have limited nutritional value. During the lean months, families may share just one meal a day. For children between the critical developmental ages of 6 months and 3 years, simply getting enough food can be impossible.

As the mortality rate in his ward declined from 30 percent to around 10 percent, Manary began outreach programs to other hospitals to teach and encourage better nutrition. "We wrote management manuals in the standard language and figured out good recipes to feed these children from foods that were available there," he says. "The number of children dying went down, but the recovery rate was stubborn—most weren't getting any better."

It was time to try something new.



Jeannie Gibbons



"Now Malawi has an advanced program for the management of severe malnutrition that is often held up as an example," says André Briend, creator of the original RUTF.

In 1999, Manary lived in a rural village for 10 weeks. The experience was important, because understanding village life in Malawi became key to developing a workable solution to childhood malnutrition.

"We decided it was time to think outside the box," he says. "It was time to commit medical heresy: to take these children out of the hospital and treat them at home." Having lived in a village where mothers had to walk great distances to get firewood and clean water, Manary understood what mothers would need to feed their children at home. They would need food that was clean and energy-rich, and did not require cooking.

In France, meanwhile, another doctor devoted to fighting world hunger had developed a revolutionary, peanut-based ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF). Collaborating with the Normandy-based company Nutriset, which packaged the new product in small foil packets under the brand name Plumpy'Nut®, pediatric nutritionist André Briend searched for someone to test his creation.

Briend, now a medical officer with the World Health Organization's Department of Child & Adolescent Health and Development, approached many academic institutions and also NGOs (nongovernmental organizations) treating children with severe malnutrition about field testing the product. "Very few people listened to me," Briend says. "Then a visiting colleague from the United States gave me Mark's e-mail address and told me about his work in Malawi, which I already knew from reading his publications." Briend contacted Manary, and Manary eagerly agreed to help.

Manary began field testing RUTF in 2001. He emptied the hospital's malnutrition ward and treated the children at home. Children fed a complete six-week RUTF diet at home had a 95 percent recovery rate—compared to 25 percent among those receiving standard care in the hospital. They also fared significantly better than children whose diet was supplemented with RUTF or whose family was given generous amounts of traditional food. Six months to a year later, these children remained healthy. This effort launched Manary's Project Peanut Butter ([www.projectpeanutbutter.org](http://www.projectpeanutbutter.org)).

**R**UTF is an inexpensive, lipid-dense paste made with peanuts, sugar, oil, powdered milk, and added nutrients. Because it is not made with water, it can be stored without refrigeration and transported to remote areas without spoiling. After importing RUTF

Courtesy Photo

## Nurturing Children in Haiti

**In** Haiti, the poorest nation in the Western Hemisphere, they call RUTF "Medika Mamba," Creole for "peanut butter medicine." Patricia Wolff, clinical professor of pediatrics in the medical school, has volunteered there since 1988. She knows firsthand that a staggering number of Haitian children are chronically malnourished, and this drives her work to provide Medika Mamba to as many as possible.

"I was treating children with pneumonia, malaria, typhoid, diarrhea, but mainly they were sick because they were malnourished," Wolff says. "We tried a variety of standard treatments, but the children never seemed to get any better. Every time we came back, we'd see the same ones with the same or similar illnesses. After many years of doing this, I knew that we needed to address the underlying malnutrition."

After visiting Malawi to observe Mark Manary and Project Peanut Butter in action, she founded the nonprofit Meds & Food for Kids (MFK) in 2004 for the purpose of bringing RUTF to this small Caribbean nation.

"Mark put me in touch with Nutriset, and they actually donated, at his request, the first year of vitamins and minerals. We bought a grinder and started making RUTF in a church classroom."

Now with eight grinders and 20 employees, MFK operates an RUTF factory near Cap-Haïtien in northern Haiti and delivers Medika Mamba to eight sites. Like Project Peanut Butter, MFK targets vulnerable children under the age of 5, when they are at the highest risk of dying from malnutrition. And, like Malawi, working in the poverty-stricken nation poses practical problems.

"You know, Haiti is very close, but it's like a different planet," Wolff says, "because Haiti is a country without electricity, without running water, with terrible roads."

(continued top of page 16)

*Patricia Wolff, clinical professor of pediatrics, founded Meds & Food for Kids to treat malnourished children in Haiti.*





We have generators, and we have our own well and pumps. We use propane for the stoves that roast the peanuts. As the project has grown, it's become less medical, because providing the Medika Mamba to the children in the clinic is the simple part. The difficulty is obtaining the milk, sugar, oil, vitamins, and minerals, then shipping them, getting them out of customs, and storing them in a safe way." Other challenges include teaching the workers about food safety, getting the peanuts from the peanut farmers, and teaching the farmers about irrigation methods.

MFK hopes working with Haitian farmers will contribute to Haiti's economic development. The organization, which competed in Washington University's first Social Entrepreneurship and Innovation Competition in 1996, received a \$25,000 Skandalakis Center Award and a \$5,000 Student Award for its business concept. The goal is to sustain the program through the sale of RUTF (see below) to large organizations that can afford to pay for it, while giving it away to as many small clinics as they can.

In 1997, Wolff won a \$200,000 grant from the World Bank's Development Marketplace to partner with Haiti's public sector in the fight against malnutrition.

"We've provided a lot of training, mentoring, and supervision. We hope to be able to treat 3,000 to 4,000 children in public clinics over the next two years," she says.

"And we're hoping to get UNICEF food safety certified in the next few months," she continues. "There are no food production standards in Haiti, and nobody in Haiti has ever met the international UNICEF standards for food production. We will be the first and only, so that's high on our agenda. As a result, we are hoping to be the producers of safe Medika Mamba for the whole country. We have the real possibility of eliminating childhood malnutrition in Haiti in 10 years."

from France for the 2001 trials, Manary knew what must be done to achieve long-term success in Malawi. His team members would have to make the product, with modifications, themselves.

"Together, we simplified a recipe that could be produced locally," Briend says.

Manary tested the new recipe and found it effective. He then worked to develop the facilities needed for production. He also attracted the attention of Malawi's Ministry of Health to the potential of this new approach.



In Malawi, Africa, a team of health-care workers (background) distributes ready-to-use therapeutic food to village mothers.

"Now Malawi has an advanced program for the management of severe malnutrition that is often held up as an example," Briend says. "All this can be traced to Mark's hard work over many years. He also actively promotes improved treatment in all regions of Africa."

A joint statement by the World Health Organization, the World Food Programme, the United Nations System Standing Committee on Nutrition, and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) recently endorsed home-based RUTF therapy as the standard treatment for children with severe acute malnutrition. It is now being implemented successfully in numerous countries, including Ethiopia.

**T**oday, Project Peanut Butter's factory in Blantyre, Malawi, employs local workers and produces enough RUTF to supply the emerging national program. It also provides food at cost to relief organizations such as Doctors Without Borders and UNICEF. In November 2007, Manary received the World of Children Health Award at UNICEF House in New York, along with a \$50,000 grant for Project Peanut Butter. He plans to use the grant money to expand operations in Sierra Leone.

"Implementing change in Malawi," Manary says, "is a matter of working with other relief organizations, of training the village health workers, and putting an ongoing auditing system in place. Our factory has the capacity to make enough food for the whole country. The limiting factor now is funding all the ingredients to do this."

Manary continues to develop a range of therapeutic foods and adapt the RUTF concept to other groups, such as adults with HIV and children with mild malnutrition. In the long term, he hopes to add preventive solutions such as combining nutritious baby food with immunization.

One preventive strategy aims to improve staple crops. Manary recently joined an international team of plant scientists, plant geneticists, and field researchers—including scientists at the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center—to develop a better cassava. A root plant similar to a potato, cassava is a staple throughout much of Africa. However, it is low in protein and other nutrients, vulnerable to disease and rot, and can be toxic if not properly prepared.

"The overlap between better plants and human health is natural," Manary says. "Traditionally doctors and agriculture have remained separate, but we now see an opportunity for new partnerships. The Danforth Center and Washington University are going to lead the way. Failure is not an option."

Terri McClain is a freelance writer based in St. Louis.





# Impacting the World—BEFORE GRADUATION

Undergraduates conduct research with leading faculty and create new knowledge that has a lasting impact not only on their own lives but on society as well.

BY JUDY H. WATTS

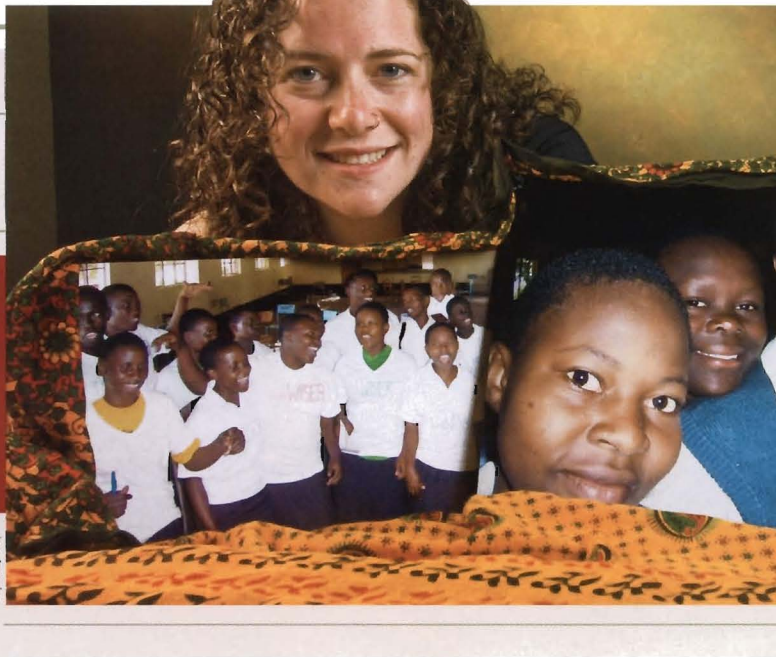


*Above, left:*  
ERIN BECK, engineering physics major (Engineering);  
Mentor: Michael Swartwout, assistant professor of  
mechanical engineering

*Above, right:*  
RASHIED AMINI, physics major, aerospace engineering minor  
(Engineering); Mentors: James Buckley, professor of physics; Henric  
Krawczynski, associate professor of physics; Michael Swartwout



RACHEL GARTNER, psychology and women & gender studies majors, (Arts & Sciences); Mentor: Barbara Baumgartner, associate director, Women & Gender Studies Program



Joe Angeles

"I don't think it's important that all of our students continue in a research career—but I want all of them to become self-directed learners," McLeod says. "That way they will always be confident that they can learn anything. They'll know where to start. Research is a way of thinking, of working, and of encountering challenge."

The following seven undergraduates, like at least 500 of their classmates, are doing hands-on work that matters greatly to them and to their faculty mentors—and that serves their fellow human beings.

## "I try to do all the things I want to do most." • RASHIED AMINI, '08

First, bear in mind that Rashied Amini plays "a lot of soccer," is a serious photographer, and gives sermons for the Muslim Students Association. He also helped found Washington University Model United Nations. Then consider his academic calendar. Amini has several demanding research projects under way, one dating from his sophomore year. He is co-author of a paper based on gamma-ray burst (GRB) afterglow data analysis, following time spent at the Cherenkov telescope system in Arizona (part of the international collaboration VERITAS—Very Energetic Radiation Imaging Telescope Array System). He is lead author on an article in review based on his idea for evaluating potential configurations of VERITAS' four telescopes. He worked on structures and communications for the Washington University Nanosatellite Project, which won second place in a NASA–Air Force-sponsored competition. Drawing on his research knowledge about gamma-rays, small satellites, and team findings, he is working on his idea for a GRB mission that he hopes will "improve what NASA is currently doing." Of his undergraduate research, Amini says with palpable satisfaction: "Boy, it's taken up a lot of my life!"

Next fall, Amini plans to attend the University of Texas at Austin to do graduate work in aerospace engineering. "I have to say that none of this could have been possible at all without my advisors," he says. "I care for them deeply, and I'm thankful they've been so supportive."

"Undergraduate research is all about getting a terrific education," says Jim McLeod, vice chancellor for students and dean, College of Arts & Sciences. "Our students are coming of age in a learning community, and out of their experience here we want them to be curious, committed to learning, excited, and motivated—and also to gain the skills to discover and create new knowledge."

Curious, committed, excited, and motivated definitely describe undergraduate researchers at the University. Consider the following few examples: One student explores a method for improving hearing among people with inner-ear implants, another assesses the effects of video games on learning, while a third characterizes cerebral signaling mechanisms that help protect the brain's network of micro-vessels following stroke. Others choose international topics, such as investigating agricultural sustainability in Sub-Saharan Africa or traveling to Azerbaijan and the Republic of Georgia to develop a new way to understand meaningfully unfamiliar cultures.

Undergraduate projects like these, published in WUURD or Washington University Undergraduate Research Digest ([ur.wustl.edu/digest](http://ur.wustl.edu/digest)), illustrate the scope and substance of our young students' contributions to new knowledge and suggest a collective vigor.



## "I follow the great opportunity."

• ERIN BECK, '08

"I've always liked space," says Erin Beck, who focused on theater in high school. "And I thought I would be cheating myself in college if I didn't explore the heavily intellectual, all-enabling fields of science and engineering in some way."

She soon found the University's student-led and -designed Nanosat Program. "I thought: 'These people are doing great things. I want to work here.'" (So-called University Nanosatellites are spacecraft that weigh 30 to 50 kilograms, or 60 to 100 pounds. A growing small-satellite industry produces them in quantities. Because nanosats are comparatively inexpensive to build, launches can be frequent, which boosts the technology and science.)

Beck became mission planner—which even necessitates checking the entire project design to preclude equipment problems. A year later, she became project manager for the engineering team of 60 students who produced a scalable, mission-capable craft that flies, photographs, returns, and re-docks—and has received industry offers to launch.

Thanks to her research projects, Beck says, she has worked with universities, corporations, and the European Space Agency; made trips to Paris and Greece; has entrée to graduate school; and has standing job offers from industry. "It's a very empowering feeling."

## "Kenya is never going to go away for me."

• RACHEL GARTNER, '08

Rachel Gartner's research aims to help people understand and respect themselves and one another, so that they develop their fullest, best potential for themselves and their society. To this effect, in the course of three stays in Kenya, Gartner has worked hard to help establish the first secondary boarding school for girls in Muhuru Bay, a rural fishing village on the shore of Lake Victoria. Her use of a comprehensive sexual education, health, and empowerment program—developed by students at Duke University with input from Gartner and an advisor—for the school was recognized with the 2007 Andrea Biggs Undergraduate Research Award. (Andrea Biggs, 1960–1981, was an independent spirit who advocated tirelessly for women's rights. The prize is for the promotion of undergraduate research that focuses on issues relating to gender in the hopes of further nurturing that same spirit in others.) When completed, the Women's Institute for Secondary Education and Research (WISER) will nurture the education and leadership essential to eventually closing Kenya's gender gap. This development will be a boon to the struggling country's future.

Last summer, Gartner concentrated on Camp WISER, an educational program focusing on health, leadership, and gender, and for which she also developed pre- and post-test curriculum analysis, taught computer classes,

and much more. Camp WISER eventually will serve students during intercession.

Gartner's honors thesis uses young adult literature to help parents better communicate with their teenage daughters. In the fall, she plans to attend the George Warren Brown School of Social Work to work on a Master of Social Work degree. And, determined to earn a Ph.D. one day and work with women's issues, Gartner adds: "I have every intention of getting back to Kenya. It has affected me in a way that I didn't know could happen."



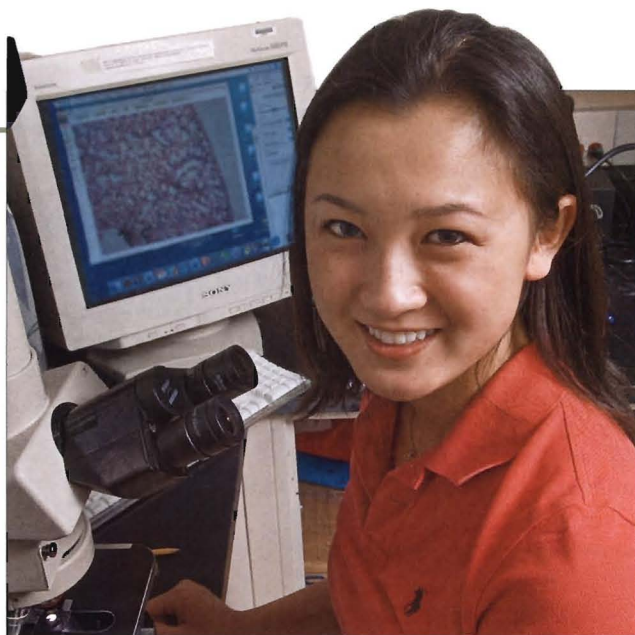
SYLVIA HARDY, art/photography (Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts) and anthropology (Arts & Sciences) majors; Mentors: Richard Krueger, associate professor of art; Fiona B. Marshall, professor of anthropology

## "My grant let me work in the way I do as an artist—to go out on my own and truly experience what I was doing."

• SYLVIA HARDY, '07

Anthropology has always subtly influenced Sylvia Hardy's art, which explores how people relate to nature and objects. But a Hoopes Undergraduate Research Award in summer 2007 allowed her to focus on anthropology and use photography in a supporting





Joe Angeles

LUCY LIU, biochemistry and philosophy-neuroscience-psychology majors (Arts & Sciences); Mentors: Jason Woods, senior research scientist in physics; Richard A. Pierce, research associate professor of medicine

role. Her subject: *Bison bison* (incorrectly called buffalo), of which more than 320,000 exist. Her laboratory: five bison farms in Missouri, Massachusetts, and Maine, and a "beefalo" farm in Rhode Island. By summer's end, she completed a study of the bison's biological and historical evolution into confined environments and the extent of its domestication.

The ranchers are "very proud of raising bison and absolutely love showing them off as wild animals," Hardy explains. They symbolize the frontier spirit: wildness, strength, and freedom. Yet one rancher calls his nearest herd "extended family," while another drives a four-wheeler out every day to pat the animals—which, Hardy says, "are only on a trajectory toward domestication, and still very dangerous." Her accompanying photographs capture the bison both as mythical, spiritual concept and as ranch animal. (See [Sylviahardy.com](http://Sylviahardy.com).)

Now in New York City, Hardy is working on photographs depicting other dreams of what America is. She will eventually earn an M.F.A., will stay in touch with anthropologists, and may collaborate on projects in the humanities.

**"I no longer accept anything as being 'just the way it is.'"** • LUCY LIU, '10

**A**ll my life I've been told, 'We know this for sure.' But in the experimental environment, we learn to question, generate, and test ideas," says pre-med student Lucy Liu. She discovered the mind-opening world of research in a pre-freshman basic research program. Then in her freshman year, she found a clinical position through the Undergraduate Research Office. She works with Jason Woods in his physics lab and with Richard Pierce at the School of Medicine under a multi-department grant from the National Institutes of Health to study chronic obstructive pulmonary disorder. One of Liu's projects involves a technique called helium-3 magnetic resonance imaging, in which magnetized gas is pumped into diseased human lungs removed before transplant surgery. The procedure allows precise imaging that

other techniques do not. "We can detect the helium-3 molecules' apparent diffusion rate; a high rate indicates a severely damaged lung with a lot of large alveolar spaces and gaps," says Liu. Ultimately, the technique, which would be noninvasive and highly accurate, may lead to early disease diagnosis and treatment.

Liu also studies elastic fibers and quantifies RNA in tissue samples for comparisons with the researchers' other findings. "I definitely intend to stay throughout my undergraduate years. I want to put more work into it. There's a lot of potential!"

**"Since I have two majors and do so much research, I always make sure to get plenty of sleep."** • EDGAR WALKER, '10

**P**re-med student Edgar Walker's interest in the convergence of disciplines started at the age of 8. He explains that he was 'into' concepts like mechanics and electricity before his third-grade teacher showed the class an issue of *Scientific American*, when he became "very interested in the similarities between the human body structure and the engineering principles I was learning."

Walker's interdisciplinary learning has accelerated to the point where today the sophomore—whose goal is to pursue an M.D./Ph.D. program and become a neurosurgeon—is responsible for all bioinformatics in plant geneticist Ralph Quatrano's lab. And Walker is the first undergraduate hired there. His work involves high-order computer analysis and writing computer programs that address far-ranging research challenges. His main project is helping identify the controversial phenomenon of lateral gene transfer among unrelated species.



Joe Angeles

EDGAR WALKER, biomedical engineering and computer science majors (Engineering); Mentors: Ralph Quatrano, Spencer T. Olin Professor; Stuart F. McDaniel (right), postdoctoral research scholar



"I try to work out all the genetic analysis myself. I've read at least 10 books and many papers about it," says the indefatigable student. "It's very fun!"

Walker is equally enthusiastic about his lab experiences. "The people around me are experts, really like their work, and answer anything I ask. At the same time, they ask me questions that make me think more about the topic. It's a good feeling!"

**"This program offers an alternative to destructive behavior—it has been transformative."** • REYNOLDS WHALEN, '08

**A**lthough no lab model exists for student research in the humanities, enterprising mentors and students continually devise outstanding projects. Consider Reynolds Whalen, who with the steady encouragement of Henry Schvey, past Performing Arts Department chair, has integrated his strong interest in drama and in African and African American studies—and in the process moved toward his life's work.

After spending a semester studying in Kenya followed by independent study, Whalen wanted to return and research drama, music, and dance as a form of education, community development, and social change. So with a 2007 Hoopes summer-long grant, he returned to document a growing grass-roots performing arts organization, Haba na Haba, in Mathare, Kenya's second-largest slum. "Participants go into communities and play drums, and then dancers perform," Whalen says. "Within 20 minutes, 800 to 1,000 people



REYNOLDS WHALEN, drama and African and African American studies majors (Arts & Sciences); Mentor: Henry I. Schvey, professor of drama and comparative literature

gather." Then the group presents a play about community issues: HIV, drug abuse, rape, child abuse, and child labor. The audience learns, remembers, and identifies with the struggle.

The program now embraces 7,000 young participants from the slums and reaches 100,000 people a year in rough urban areas where people are perpetually jobless and idle. "Using theater performance to address important social issues in East Africa, which is where my interests lie, is imperative to educating the people and developing alternatives." 📖

Judy H. Watts is a freelance writer based in Santa Barbara, California, and a former editor of this magazine.

## Undergraduate Research Office Helps Make it Happen

**"T**hey just go miles and miles," says Henry Biggs, director of the Undergraduate Research Office and associate dean of the College of Arts & Sciences. "Students bring all their inquisitiveness and youthful exuberance to projects—and there's almost no limit to what they can do!"

Biggs; Joy Kiefer, assistant dean; and Kristin Sobotka, special programs coordinator, are the go-to people for faculty seeking research assistants and students pursuing positions to match their interests. Students' first priority, however, is to do well academically, Biggs says, and the caveat applies especially to freshmen, who are still building capacity at new intellectual and social levels. Nonetheless, he strongly encourages first-year students to get involved, provided they balance research with their course work.

"If students start early, they typically become acclimated and accomplish significant research their sophomore year and beyond," Biggs says. "Many publish professional articles that commend them for graduate school or a job they wish to pursue after graduation."

The Undergraduate Research Office is a clearinghouse for opportunities throughout the University. Undergraduates typically receive academic credit for research rendered during the school year. In the summer, grants pay for their time and expenses. The generous Kathryn Hoopes Undergraduate Research Awards, for

example, provide between \$3,000 and \$5,000 to each of approximately 50 students in the summer. (The Howard Hughes Medical Institute and the National Science Foundation, among other sponsors, also support undergraduate research experiences.) Summer research grants allow students to focus fully and progress quickly. And in 2007, some 90 students filled a summer undergraduate research dorm on the Danforth Campus. Biggs says faculty members confirm his assessment: "Students have a sense of ownership in what they're doing and are thoroughly engaged. They really do first-rate research!"

The research experience is invaluable. According to Biggs, because students receive a tremendous amount of individual attention, they develop self-confidence.

"I remember that Mike Frachetti (assistant professor of anthropology) had a student who, frankly, was performing indifferently," Biggs says. "Mike showed him a few things in his lab, and the student became very interested and began to do some research. Finally, Mike told me, 'I think he has really found himself through this research.' And sure enough, all of a sudden, the young man's grades skyrocketed. He put together sensational research, presented it at the Undergraduate Research Symposium, and has gone on to graduate school."

For more information: [ur.wustl.edu/index.php](http://ur.wustl.edu/index.php).



# ECONOMIC EVOLUTION

An expansive researcher, Professor Glenn MacDonald weighs in on big business questions, ranging from recessions and the role of new technology, to investor protection and economic growth in developing countries.

BY RICK SKWIOT

**G**lenn MacDonald believes recessions are a natural feature of economic evolution, and federal government attempts to soften them "idiotic." He also can show developing nations how to attract more investment capital and has an informed word or two to say about innovation, game theory, industrial organization, executive compensation, and myriad other economic and business topics.

The self-described "itinerant researcher" and "closet growth and fluctuations guy" is described by colleagues at the Olin Business School as an inspirational leader helping to advance the School into the uppermost ranks of international research institutions.

"We're asking big, difficult questions and seeking answers," says MacDonald, the John M. Olin Distinguished Professor of Economics and Strategy, "for recessions, economic growth in developing countries, and the role of innovation."

But for MacDonald, finding answers to knotty business and economic problems is not a mere academic exercise. He has been applying that knowledge hands-on, working with the likes of Monsanto, General Motors, IBM, Xerox, and other leading corporations for 15 years.

## RECESSION'S UPSIDE

The Canadian-born economist sees recent recessions as driven by technological developments. "It takes time to learn how to use new technology," MacDonald says, which may entail retooling, reorganizing, and retraining. "When a good opportunity comes along, we have to reallocate resources. But it takes time."

During that time of "technology shock," production may fall and trigger a recession. But thanks to the new technology, the ultimate outcome will be increased productivity and growth—a good thing.

"It's part of the innovation process," MacDonald says, suggesting an academic analogy: "Think of a poor graduate student. You can lament that poverty, or you can see someone who is soon going to be able to earn a significant income."

MacDonald himself laments recent federal government efforts, such as individual rebates, to limit recession's economic impact.

"The government has lost contact with reality. The economy, with 300 million people, is very complex. Government manipulation is not going to have any beneficial impact," he says, calling the rebates wasteful.

"I ask, 'Does a rebate mean more national debt or higher taxes for me? Or will it take money from some other necessary activity, like defense?'" MacDonald says. "Instead, the government needs to do two things: keep monetary growth stable and provide a predictable tax and regulatory environment."

In other words, let markets run their course instead of trying to manipulate business cycles.

"Growth is so much more important than fluctuations," MacDonald says. "Recessions are part of innovation and growth, and per capita income in the United States has been going up 3 percent annually."

One particular aspect of recent recessions—their "jobless recovery"—which puzzled many, compelled MacDonald to study and explain the phenomenon.

"Historically, employment mirrored GDP (gross domestic product) growth. It might lag by one quarter, but it was almost instantaneous," he says. "But with the 1991 and the 2001 recessions, there was a long period in which employment continued in decline."

His research suggested that the reasons lie in the uneven diffusion of the new technology across sectors of the economy and the time needed for workers to learn and accept the new technology's impact.

"New technology takes time to spread. Insurance, real estate, and finance were growing like crazy thanks to information processing, but other sectors—such as manufacturing, which continued to shrink—were not affected as much," MacDonald says. "But workers are smart. When technology hits, people are looking to move into another part of the economy, but they aren't going to join that part of the economy until they are sure."

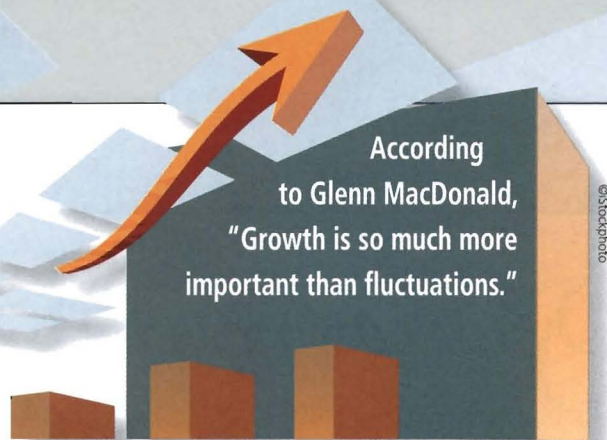




Joe Angeles

*Professor Glenn MacDonald thinks the federal government's efforts to limit a recession's economic impact, such as through individual rebates, will not prove beneficial and are, in fact, wasteful.*





Once enough sector growth occurs to make the switch attractive, they'll be pulled into that part of the economy, MacDonald says. But that takes time—and produces the jobless recovery.

## RESEARCH THAT'S BOTH BROAD AND DEEP

But his work on recessions represents only a fraction of his significant contributions, according to colleague and fellow economist Barton Hamilton, the Robert Brookings Smith Distinguished Professor of Entrepreneurship.

"Most academics tend to be narrow," Hamilton says. "Glenn is unusual in that his research is very broad; he makes significant contributions in economics and business strategy, labor economics and industrial organization."

Further, Hamilton says that MacDonald's breadth does not suggest he wades only in shallow research waters. "He does deep work in a number of areas," Hamilton says. "In these days of specialization, he's a throwback to 30 or 40 years ago."

Hamilton knew of MacDonald and his work even before MacDonald came to Washington University in 2001 from the W.E. Simon School of Business at the University of Rochester. "His work influenced my work on entrepreneurship," Hamilton says.

MacDonald readily admits to being fickle about research interests and getting a seven-year-itch that, he says, keeps his work vital and energized.

"People call me 'itinerant'—moving from economics to game theory to innovation or growth. But I stay interested by changing every six or seven years," MacDonald says. "As a result, I'm still as productive now as when I was a rookie."

## PROTECTING INVESTORS IN DEVELOPING NATIONS

MacDonald's recent research into investor protection and economic growth holds potentially important implications for developing nations. Investor protection, MacDonald says, "influences the way people make investments, the amount of capital, and the growth of the economy. In developing nations, investors are often worried about being ripped off."

He cites the stymied growth in the former Soviet Union. "The lack of investor protection hurt growth as the expected capital inflows did not materialize."

Countries with the greatest need for capital infusion, he says, are the ones often least likely to get it. "Developing countries with poorer investor protection and a need for durable goods, like tractors, take a double hit," MacDonald says. "The capital producing part of the economy is always particularly volatile, so weak investor protection means capital doesn't go where it might have the greatest impact."

Improving investor protection promotes growth by making investment attractive. But in economies with restriction on foreign investment, increasing domestic investment can drive up interest rates and offset the positive effect of improved investor protection.

This is not a big problem in open economies, he contends, where capital flows into the country from outside. But many developing nations do not have open economies.

"The secondary effect could lead to negative growth in a closed economy, such as India or South Korea," two nations he has studied. "With severe capital market limitations," MacDonald says, "there's no way for capital to flow into the countries."

His study, in fact, shows stronger economic growth for developing countries with fewer restrictions on international capital flows.

## HELPING BUILD A STRONGER BUSINESS SCHOOL

Along with his accomplishments as an economist and business researcher, MacDonald also has played an important role in the rise of the Olin Business School among top international schools.

"Glenn's greatest contribution is helping to develop institutional glue," says Ronald R. King, senior associate dean and the Myron Northrop Professor of Accounting, "that is, to develop a culture of excellence that is integrated within Olin and across the University."

Hamilton concurs. "Glenn expects a lot of himself and has incredibly high standards for teaching, research, and service. He inspires the rest of us to improve our game to meet those standards," he says.

King says three attributes contribute to MacDonald's success: his passion, optimism, and attentiveness.

"He has boundless energy for his research, teaching, and service commitments," King says. "Second, while he is always professional, he has an exceptionally upbeat attitude. Third is his ability to listen. He respects the opinions of others—even when respectfully disagreeing."

At Olin, MacDonald teaches doctoral, M.B.A., and undergraduate courses on microeconomic theory, game theory, market competition and value appropriation, and more.

His editorial work also suggests the wide scope of his expertise, serving as editor of the *Journal of Labor Economics* for 10 years and currently as associate editor for *Management Science*. ■

Rick Skwiot is a freelance writer based in St. Louis.



# Open Hearts Open Opportunities

Alumnus George Bauer and his wife, Carol, dedicate themselves to others. Their global stewardship helps newborns in intensive care, students in high school and college, and young women in distant lands.



Jennifer Weisbord

BY CANDACE O'CONNOR





**B**lackie, Annie, Mabel, and Bambi—cows that George Bauer raised on his family's hard-scrabble farm in the Missouri Ozarks—helped him get into Washington University. On his scholarship application, he promised to sell one of them each year to pay his incidental expenses. Long afterward, a still-surprised but touched admissions director admitted to Bauer, B.S.I.E. '53, M.S.I.E. '59, that he had never seen a form quite like it.

That childhood, marked by hard work but not much money, set the stage for a conviction strongly held by Bauer and his wife, Carol, a St. Louisan who also grew up in happy but modest circumstances. They firmly believe that the financial rewards they garnered from Bauer's 31 years at IBM and a second career as an investment banker are only theirs in trust.

"We view ourselves as the stewards of whatever wealth came to us," says Bauer, now a resident of Wilton, Connecticut. "Lots of people have high energy levels and good minds; we just happened to be in the right place at the right time. We were fortunate, and now we are stewards of that good luck. However, we are quick to suggest to our children what Louis Pasteur said about luck seeming to favor the prepared mind."

Quietly but generously, the Bauers have funded a heart-warming array of projects—many related to children and teens. At Washington University, they endowed a new professorship at the Olin Business School in corporate ethics and governance, a kind of antidote to the Enron- and United Way-type scandals that the Bauers deplore. At Norwalk Hospital, they funded a neonatal intensive care unit named for the 5-day-old son, Jeffrey Peter Bauer, they lost suddenly many years ago.

Another benevolence began in 1994 on a University trip to Thailand. In the village of Chiang Rai, they heard Baptist missionaries describe the need for a second halfway house to take in young women fleeing virtual slavery in Bangkok brothels. The Bauers responded with a gift that made this building possible. They remained involved, too. Today, the New Life Center has four buildings with 150 women as young as 11 years old, who receive kindness and education. Several have graduated from college and come back to help.

### Building a strong foundation

George Bauer's father was working as an auto mechanic in St. Louis when the years spent lying on cold concrete took their toll. With tuberculosis threatening, he had to move to the country or risk early death. He bought a 150-acre farm south of St. Louis—"more rocks than soil, I think," says Bauer now. But his father thrived, eventually living to age 82; the family learned together about rural life; and Bauer attended a one-room schoolhouse.

When it was time for college, Bauer delighted in receiving a scholarship to Washington University's engineering school. During school, he lived with his grandmother in St. Louis to make ends meet. In class, he had some extraordinary professors, including Gustav Mesmer, who taught applied mechanics as well as life lessons in courage. As a young faculty member in Germany during World War II, Mesmer refused to join the Nazi Party, and he once gave a Ph.D. exam in a roadside ditch amid Allied bombing.

A world religions class from a young professor, Huston Smith, also had a lifelong impact on Bauer, who was struggling to sort out his own theological views. Smith "was absolutely inspirational," says Bauer, "with an ascetic look and a mystical quality about him,"



George and Carol Bauer sponsor high school students in the "I Have a Dream" program. As sponsors, they help children from a South Norwalk housing project. In the late 1990s, the Bauers "adopted" 43 young students, making them an offer of post-high school training if they stayed in school. Today, they still have 25 on track, with four in college. At left, the Bauers are pictured with (from left) Tiffany Reid, sophomore; James Shaw, senior; Jessica Davis, senior; Taylor Reid, senior; and Xavier Kitt, sophomore.

In other philanthropic efforts, Carol recently received training to become a hospital chaplain at Norwalk Hospital, and George is a member of the New York Regional Cabinet for Washington University and interviews prospective students.

"We view ourselves as the stewards of whatever wealth came to us," says George Bauer. "Lots of people have high energy levels and good minds; we just happened to be in the right place at the right time. We were fortunate, and now we are stewards of that good luck."

and his class "brought me to a much more ecumenical understanding of the spiritual world around me."

Smith's class also led Bauer to an office on the Student Religious Council, which met with groups from other area schools—including Harris Teachers' College, where a bright young student, Carol Bruns, caught his eye. Friends at first, they began dating after a fateful 1953 lunch at Medart's Restaurant, when Bauer bought her a hamburger. On their 50th anniversary, they reserved the same booth (known then as the Cheshire Inn)—and this time, "I snapped for the next level and got her a cheeseburger," he says.

Writing a master's thesis on the first IBM computer, he was a natural for a job at IBM. He became a salesman on the McDonnell Douglas account just at the time when the company—flush with a new contract for the first Mercury space capsule—was "buying computers like they were going out of style," he says. For three decades, he remained with IBM, rising to executive positions and moving 18 times in 25 years. On one stint in Paris, the Bauers lived on the grounds of Napoleon and Josephine's "Malmaison" chateau. While there, Carol, a history buff, developed a successful lecture tour on the lives of the Bonapartes.

## Sharing good fortune with others

The Bauers, who believe strongly in transferring private wealth to a public trust, set up their own family foundation. Working with politicians in Washington, D.C., George Bauer also lobbied for changes in the law allowing donors to give appreciated securities to foundations at market value, thus allowing a substantial tax break. This effort dramatically increased donations worldwide.

They also favor a "hands-on" approach to giving: To them, you don't just write a check and walk away; you become personally involved. At Norwalk Hospital (in

Norwalk, Connecticut), Carol has done volunteer work since 1978, heading the volunteer board, joining the board of trustees, and finally serving as its chairman. Most recently, she has received training to become a hospital chaplain, with special empathy for women who lose children soon after delivery.

The "I Have a Dream" program holds another special place in their hearts. As sponsors, they help children from a South Norwalk housing project who often have chaotic home lives, little academic motivation, and no hope of higher education. In the late 1990s, they "adopted" 43 youngsters, making them an offer of post-high school training if they stayed in school. Today, they still have 25 on track, with four currently in college.

"But let's not be too glowing about it," says Carol Bauer. "It has been a tough road." They sponsored after-school classes and enrichment activities. Determined to give these kids the same experiences that suburban children have, they took them to theater performances, dance classes, and swim lessons. But, along the way, some promising students had to curtail their college classes to become the family breadwinners. Right now, they have one academic "star," Tiffany, who dreams of a top-notch school, Harvard or Washington University. "We have our fingers crossed for her," says Bauer.

The Bauers raised their own three children to appreciate philanthropy, and now their five grandchildren also volunteer. "You have to expose your kids to circumstances beyond their own. This helps them understand they are not where they are because of any innate value of their own," says George Bauer. "They are simply very, very fortunate." ■

Candace O'Connor is a freelance writer based in St. Louis.





Ron Schwane

# Two Kids and a Comic Strip

Alumna Terri Libenson draws from real-life ups and downs to create the funny and thoughtful syndicated comic strip, *The Pajama Diaries*.

BY KRISTIN TENNANT

Life for young parents today is a balancing act. Just ask Terri Libenson, B.F.A. '92. A mother of two young children and the creator of a daily syndicated comic strip, Libenson spends her days balancing a constant jumble of roles. If she's not actively writing, drawing, or spending time with her kids, she's folding laundry while brainstorming new story ideas for next month's comic strips or trying to call the sitter so she and her husband can go out.

Ever juggling, Libenson has become a master multitasker. Perhaps her most brilliant technique? Allowing the very craziness of her life to serve as fodder for her comic

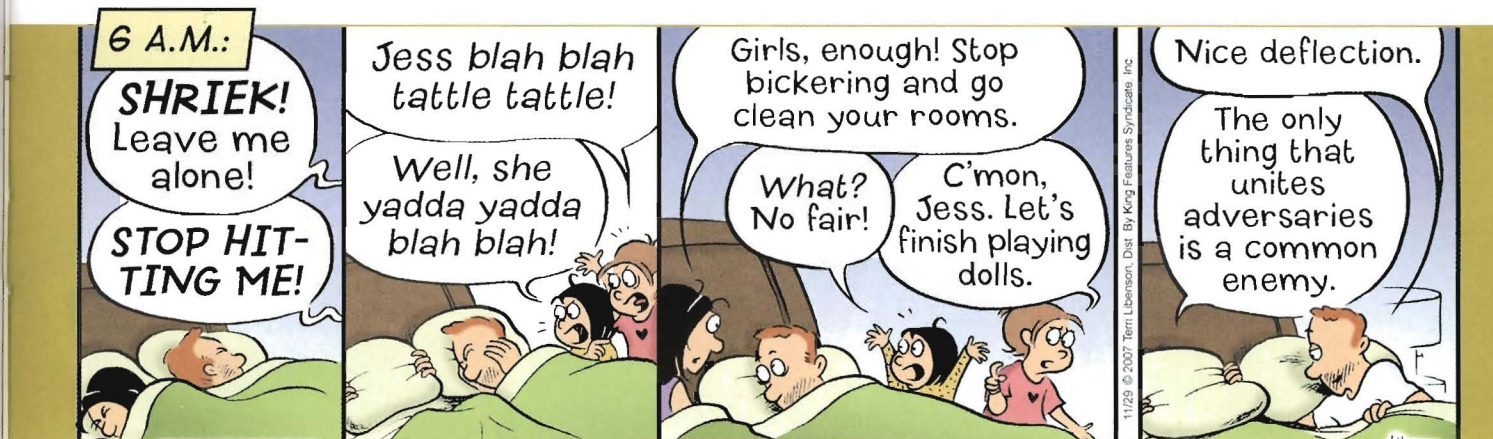
strip, *The Pajama Diaries*, which is syndicated with King Features Syndicate. In one strip, titled "The Annual 'Multi-Tasking Mom' Triathlon, 2006" *Pajama Diaries*' main character, Jill Kaplan, a freelance designer and mother of two small girls, competes in events like these: "Eat lunch, call client, and pick up birthday gift in under 30 minutes," and "Complete entire pilates session while preparing dinner and helping child with spelling homework."

"While trying to relate to others, I'm also trying to disassemble the 'Superwoman' myth," Libenson says. "Modern women need to let go of 'doing it all' and focus more on doing their best."

In the midst of crazed schedules, Libenson says friendships and other support systems often get squeezed, in a classic "Catch-22" manner: The less time you have for support and comic relief, the more you need it.

"*Pajama Diaries* can act as a support system, in a way, because it demonstrates you're not alone," she says. "Many women carry a lot of guilt as they try to marry





Terri Libenson says that although her characters aren't based solely on her family, members provide an endless supply of material.

"People need humor... My goal is to make my work something that people will cut out and hang on the refrigerator."

feminist notions with traditional roles. Just writing the strip is cathartic for me. It's like a diary within a diary!"

Although many themes come from Libenson's own life, she also draws ideas from stories her friends and fans share, as well as from books, articles, and blogs she reads. Developing the idea for *Pajama Diaries*, after the birth of her second child in 2002, Libenson began reading a lot about what she calls "the plight of modern, stressed-out mommies." As she watched early episodes of *Desperate Housewives* and read books—from the funny novel *I Don't Know How She Does It*, to more serious nonfiction titles like *Myth of the Perfect Mother*—Libenson realized she had a strong foundation for her comic strip.

Now two years into its life, *Pajama Diaries* runs in nearly 100 daily papers, in cities from Sacramento, California, to St. Louis, Chicago, and Albany, New York, and even overseas. Libenson hears from many fans who write comments such as "I feel as if you have a camera in my head!"

*Pajama Diaries* isn't all humor, though. Wanting the strip to be socially relevant, Libenson addresses sensitive topics such as a sex life that needs rekindling or being prescribed antidepressants. Sometimes her comic strip even attracts angry comments, which don't "roll off" as easily as she'd like.

"I have a dual personality," she jokes. "I'm a people-pleaser at heart, but I also have a real drive to make a statement. I guess I can't be relevant and get all happy comments."

Getting the right ideas across in subtle, humorous ways is one of Libenson's most challenging tasks. Her

process, which tackles a month's worth of strips at a time, separates the writing from the illustration. In a typical month, she first spends six or seven days writing down her story-line ideas and a "gag-a-day." After writing a rough draft of the copy, Libenson puts on her "illustrator hat" to rough out the comics. Her goal is making her ideas legible enough to show to her husband



According to Libenson, getting the right ideas across in subtle, humorous ways is one of her most challenging tasks.

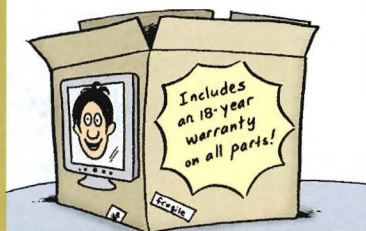
and maybe a friend or two. Then, with feedback in hand, she lays out the entire month's worth of strips on the floor. After she's pleased with their order, Libenson begins drawing the comic strip in pencil, then ink, before it gets scanned and colored on the computer.

"I have a very linear personality," she says. "Producing a daily strip is relentless, so I have to stay orderly and on top of it. If one of my kids is home sick, I go into panic mode!"



# the Pajama Diaries

by Terri Libenson



## THE NEW, HIGH-FUNCTIONING "MOM-PUTER!"



### ADDED FUNCTIONS:

- ✓ Prevents meltdowns
- ✓ Detects viruses
- ✓ Comes with backup when server's down



"Pajama Diaries can act as a support system, in a way, because it demonstrates you're not alone," Terri Libenson says.

When Libenson was growing up in Northeastern Pennsylvania, her mother worked part time in her father's paper supply company. Libenson says she was always drawing and was fascinated by cartoon characters. A product of the '70s and '80s, she started with Snoopy<sup>®</sup> and Woodstock<sup>®</sup> before branching out to create her own characters.

"I was a quiet child, which made drawing a perfect pastime for me," she says.

When Libenson entered Washington University in fall 1988, she knew she wanted to study art but didn't know what form. After considering fashion design, she settled into illustration, with a minor in art history.

"The further I went with illustration, the more I noticed my work becoming more and more cartoony," she says.

## The Main Characters

**JILL KAPLAN** – a wife, mother of two young children, and freelance graphic designer, who tries to maintain her own identity. Her blog reveals daily humor.

**ROB KAPLAN** – Jill's husband and steadfast best friend. He's not always aware of Jill's dilemmas but is eager to help.

**AMY & JESS** – Jill and Rob's energetic little girls. Amy is in grade school, and Jess is a young preschooler. Their roles as leader-of-the-pack and sidekick create interesting fun in the household.

**BOBBY** – Amy's favorite companion, a raggedy stuffed elephant.

**GRANDMA SOPHIE** – Rob's grandmother. She reminds Jill of the duties of being a homemaker.

**NANCI, DEB & LISA** – Jill's circle of close friends. A part-time career woman with two kids, a former party girl turned "Mother Earth," and a stay-at-home mom of three, respectively, Jill observes them in her blog.

Her senior year, Libenson put together an independent study with St. Louis cartoonist Steve Edwards, B.F.A. '87. She also created a strip called *Zero for Student Life*, which she sent to King Features and other places in hopes of getting syndicated.

"Though the strip was too college-focused, I got a lot of nice encouragement," Libenson says.

After graduation, Libenson moved to Cleveland for a job at American Greetings—first as a humorous card writer, then moving into a combination of illustration and writing.

While she doesn't think she was particularly funny as a child, Libenson says her father and brother were.

"I've always gravitated toward humor and have always been surrounded by funny people," she says. "My own sense of humor is more observational and comes out more on paper."


As Libenson's own children grow, so will Jill Kaplan's children in *Pajama Diaries*, even though the characters aren't based solely on Libenson's own children.

"There's an endless supply of material," she says.

Her goals now involve staying on top of her *Pajama Diaries* schedule, continuing her contract work for American Greetings, publishing an anthology of her work, getting her comic art into exhibitions, and carving out more family time.

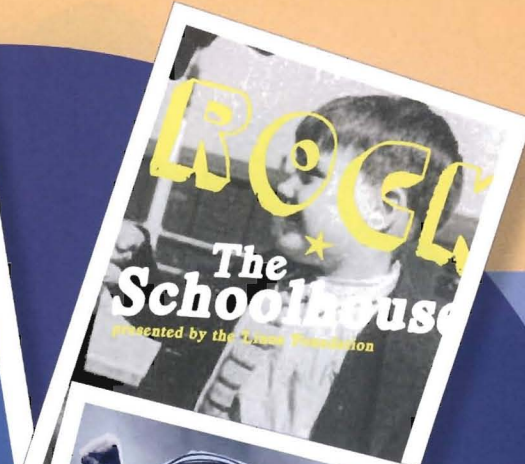
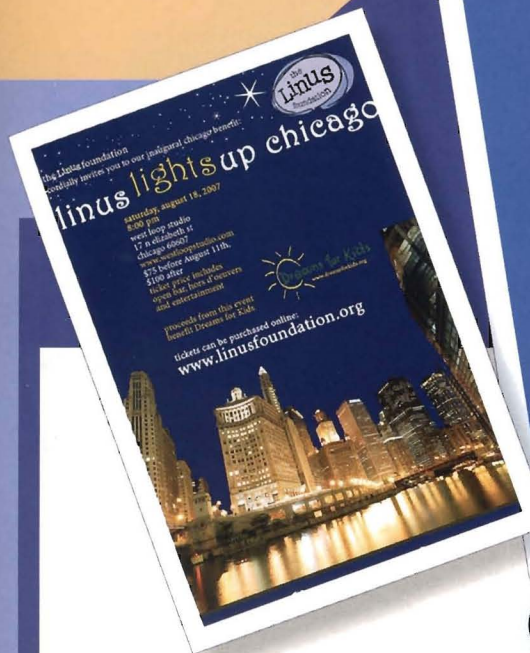
"I think there can be a misconception that a freelancer's life is more freewheeling," she says, "but I have to put in extra time just to give myself a day off."

Libenson observes that the comic world has become much more diverse in recent years, in terms of characters and topics. And as newspapers lose readership to Internet sources, the comic strip form must evolve.

"The medium is definitely changing. I don't see how it can avoid moving online," she says. "But there will always be a place for comics. People need humor, and they need to know others can relate to their lives. My goal is to make my work something that people will cut out and hang on the refrigerator." 

Kristin Tennant is a freelance writer based in Urbana, Illinois.





# Playing for the Children

The Linus Foundation's board of directors consists of four young alumni. Sponsoring social events in six cities, they support fun, innovative programs that empower kids.

BY TERRI NAPIER



Jeff Buening, B.S.B.A. '05 (finance)  
— executive director

Eric Kuhn, A.B. '05 (economics)  
— co-founder and executive director

Jon Dembling, A.B. '05 (philosophy)  
— co-founder and executive director

Josh Mandel-Brehm, A.B. '05  
(biology) — executive director



Alumni Eric Kuhn (left, center) and Jon Dembling (right, center) meet with boys from Harlem RBI. Kuhn and Dembling's Linus Foundation sponsors programs at the youth organization.



Courtesy Photo

**T**he sweat drips off your forehead. You're thirsty. It's summer, and hot in Harlem. You're in the stands, waiting for the game to begin.

Then the Linus Lobos take the field. They're dressed in new uniforms, dark blue jerseys and gray pants.

You remember the feel of a pressed, fresh uniform and the thrill of choosing a number. A warm breeze blows. The ump says, "Batter up."

The 7-year-olds, only "knee-high to a grasshopper," don't seem to notice the heat. It's baseball season. They're ready to play.

Jon Dembling and Eric Kuhn remember how much fun they had playing baseball as kids, and how it felt to wear a new uniform. That's partly why, as co-founders of the Linus Foundation, they sponsor the Linus Lobos team from Harlem RBI.

Harlem RBI ([www.harlemrbi.org](http://www.harlemrbi.org)), recently awarded charter school status, offers year-round scholastic and athletic programs for inner-city children.

When Dembling, A.B. '05, and Kuhn, A.B. '05, first met the team, Dembling said it felt like a flashback. "When we walked into the schoolroom, we saw the cutest little kids all sitting at their desks doing their exercises," he says. "The teacher introduced us: 'This is Eric and Jon. They are from the Linus Foundation. They are the ones who make it possible for you to do your favorite thing in the world. And what's your favorite thing?' And they yelled, 'Baseball!'"

Favorite things in the world resonate with Dembling and Kuhn, who founded Linus Foundation while students at Washington University. One of their favorite things was to have a good time with friends.

The two often hosted social events at off-campus venues. They rented buses to carry their friends, upward to 600 people

from all affiliations, to a pre-arranged site. The venue owner covered the cost of transportation for the guaranteed business.

Although these social events originally focused just on having fun, Dembling and Kuhn recognized the opportunity the events provided to raise funds. With graduation only months away, they decided to focus their efforts on collecting cover charges at their events, donating all the money to a St. Louis charity. Both from the East Coast, Dembling and Kuhn had grown to love St. Louis and felt compelled to give back. The two promptly teamed with close friend, Josh Mandel-Brehm, A.B. '05, and began considering charities.

Dembling, a philosophy major; Kuhn, an economics major; and Mandel-Brehm, a biology major, chose the Kingdom House as a first beneficiary. Kingdom House ([www.kingdomhouse.org/services](http://www.kingdomhouse.org/services)) provides child day-care and youth after-school programs for low-income families who are working, attending school, or training for a job. Their donation helped children, and it helped them have fun by providing for a summer basketball program.

When the three discussed a group name, Kuhn mentioned the Peanuts® character Linus: a smart little boy who needs a blanket for protection. They thought the "Linus Foundation" would symbolize their desire to help, protect, and inspire kids. The foundation's logo incorporates a blanket and the phrase: *"because every child deserves a security blanket."*

"We recognized many worthy causes in the community, but we felt strongly that sometimes the greatest gift to a child is a reason to smile, and to feel safe," Dembling says.

After graduation, Dembling and Kuhn found their way to New York City: Dembling working in a law office and Kuhn in real estate development. Mandel-Brehm moved to Boston to pursue a job in biotech. Another alumnus, Jeff Buening, B.S.B.A. '05, who also had become integrally involved with Linus, went to work for NBC.



The Linus Lobos of Harlem RBI sport new uniforms, made possible by Linus Foundation funding.



Courtesy Photo

**"...sometimes the greatest gift to a child is a reason to smile..." Dembling says.**

The four committed themselves to starting a branch in New York, although bus trips were no longer an option. After pooling money and planning for six months, they hosted a formal attire cocktail party, "Have a Heart for Linus," in February 2006.

"We started pricing things," Kuhn says. "We figured if we could get 200 people at \$100, we'd have \$20,000. Spending \$10,000 on the party would leave us a pretty good margin to donate."

During this time, the Linus Foundation became a 501(c)(3) organization. The young men put together a Web site ([www.linusfoundation.org](http://www.linusfoundation.org)), solicited sponsors, sold tickets, and searched for a charity—all in their spare time.

In choosing a charity, the group wanted an organization that was big enough to be efficient and well-run, but small enough that their donation was going to really make a difference.

"When you're trying to get other young professionals excited about something," Dembling says, "you need to be able to say, 'Look, look what this \$5,000 can do.' On our Web site, you can see photos of Harlem RBI's Linus Lobos with the Linus Foundation sponsor on their backs, and that's exciting."

Over the last few years, Linus has parlayed a lot of support and enthusiasm beyond New York and St. Louis. Four other branches flourish in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, and London—thanks in large part to Buening and Mandel-Brehm bringing other close friends into the fold. Other fundraising events include "Linus Bats for Kids," "Linus Lights Up Chicago," "Linus Plays the Blues," and "Leap into Linus." These events serve to connect young leaders, and they serve as a quasi-Reunion of Washington University friends who come from all over the country to attend. They also draw family members and other friends, all in the name of having a great time for a great cause.

Of the foundation's 60+ volunteers, two other alumni are on the national board: Josh Farber, B.S.B.A. '05, is vice president of finance, and John Woock, B.S.B.M.E. '05, is vice president of programming. Jennifer Williams and Sarah Williamson, graduates of Boston University and Boston College, respectively, also are board members.

As board directors, Dembling, Kuhn, Mandel-Brehm, and Buening consult with all branches. Each branch must live up to the Linus Foundation's mission: "dedicated to supporting fun, innovative programs that educate and empower children, encouraging them to reach the full power of their own potential." At the same time, branches have autonomy. Kuhn believes it's integral to allow volunteers to contribute their own special talents, whether in finance, marketing, graphic design, law, or whatever else it may be.

Tapping into others' potential runs through the organization and its charities, to which Linus has given \$70,000 over three years.

Working with Groundwork, a nonprofit that provides high-quality educational programs and support services to families in Brooklyn, the Linus Foundation provided funding for travel. When Dembling and Kuhn learned that children who live in this area often do not leave the nine-block radius of their neighborhood, they signed on to help. Last summer, one Groundwork group went on a wilderness adventure, and another went to Williamsburg, Virginia, to learn history and visit the College of William & Mary—and to learn about educational possibilities.

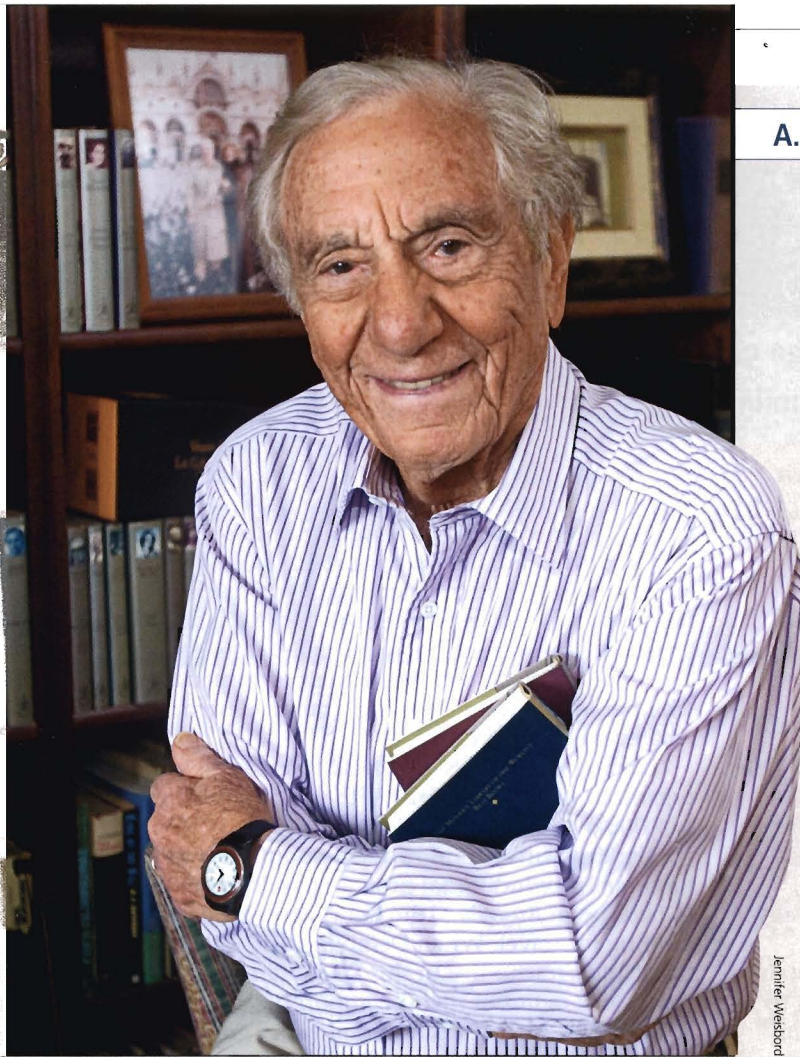
Looking toward the foundation's future, the board is fine-tuning its business model, moving beyond just being an intermediary raising money.

"Our goal is to donate more than just dollars to our beneficiaries—we want to use our resources to implement programs that we can help grow," says Dembling, now in law school at the University. "We want to be involved in helping these programs sustain themselves by bringing in volunteers, those who have expressed an interest at our social events," Kuhn adds.

And both stress that Linus volunteers are in this for the long haul, because they're in it foremost for the kids.

Running toward home base, the little Lobo hears his coach yell, "Slide." Not hesitating, he hits the brown dirt, trusting his new pants will carry him over the plate. Before the dust settles, he hears, "Safe!" ...because every child deserves a level playing field. 🏆





A.E. Hotchner, A.B. '40, J.D. '40

On campus, people know his name from the studio theater and an annual playwriting competition. In New York and Hollywood, it seems as though he is on a first-name basis with everyone. And across the country, his name can be found on every bottle of Newman's Own salad dressing.

A.E. (Aaron Edward) Hotchner has an endless fund of stories about the famous and infamous people he has known during his remarkable career. The author of 16 books, a dozen plays and musicals, scores of scripts for television and movies, and countless magazine articles, he also serves as vice president of Newman's Own, Inc., which he launched in 1982 with his neighbor and fishing buddy Paul Newman. The company donates all of its profits to charity—more than \$200 million to date.

Hotchner has always managed to accomplish more than most people. He grew up in St. Louis, graduated from Soldan High School, and attended Washington University, where he earned both history and law degrees in six years. During his spare time, he wrote a column for *Student Life*, edited the literary magazine *The Eliot*, was a contributing editor of the law quarterly, performed in student theatricals, competed on the debate team, and played intramural volleyball, where he was the set-up man for his team's star player, "Spike" Moldafsky. To pay for books and meals, he held down a series of part-time jobs, from organizing fraternity parties to promoting Marx Brothers movies dressed as Harpo.

He loved every moment. Today, he says: "When you have tough times, school is a bright place. It's clean, it has order, it has a cafeteria with food in it, it has all the things you don't have at home. The more I could achieve at school, the better life was."

The tough times included growing up during the Depression. Hotchner's experience was often brutal—at age 12, he was reduced at one point to eating paper—but he found escape by excelling in school. His resiliency and survival are described in two bittersweet memoirs, *King of the Hill* and *Looking for Miracles*, currently available

# A Multi-Storied Life



in bookstores as *The Boyhood Memoirs of A.E. Hotchner*. A movie version of *King of the Hill*, produced by his friend Robert Redford and directed by Steven Soderbergh, was released in 1994.

Washington University offered Hotchner a scholarship, but the summer before he was to enroll, he was notified that no funds were available. In desperation, he appealed to the Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis, which provided the opportunity that would change his life. Hotchner describes it in *Looking for Miracles* as “the gift of being myself, of feeling equal; the light-hearted joy of looking forward; of feeling that someday I would be everything that I could be.”

At college, he says, “I did so many things because I could never decide what I wanted to do.” Following his performance in the annual Law Day entertainment, a beloved law professor, Tyrell Williams, took him aside. Hotchner recalls: “He said in his measured way, ‘Mr. Hotchner, I have no doubt that you will make a very fine lawyer. I’ve never given this advice before, but I think you’d be even better fitted to writing and doing things in the entertainment world.’ His words stayed with me.”

## Charting a literary course

A number of professors recognized his talent, but it took World War II to help him find his career. He practiced law briefly in St. Louis with Taylor, Mayer, Shifrin & Willer before entering the Air Force, where his hopes for seeing action were dashed when he was assigned to make a movie on anti-submarine warfare. He ended up as a major, heading the European bureau of *Air Force* magazine. After the war, Hotchner decided to stay on in Paris. He remembers, “I sent a very arrogant letter to Mr. Shifrin, informing him that it was nice of him to keep my position open, but that I had gone on to bigger and better things.”

When his severance pay ran out two years later, he returned to New York. The only job available was what he describes as “a literary bounty hunter”—tracking down former contributors to *Cosmopolitan* (then a literary magazine) and asking them to write for the magazine again. The intimidating list included Dorothy Parker, Sinclair Lewis, Edna Ferber, John Steinbeck—and Ernest Hemingway.

Hemingway agreed to meet Hotchner in Havana in 1948. They went on to form a close friendship and business association that lasted until Hemingway’s death in 1961. At Hemingway’s request, Hotchner adapted many of his friend’s works for television, stage, and film, and occasionally served as his agent. In 1966, he chronicled their friendship in the best-selling memoir *Papa Hemingway*, which has been published in 34 countries. Their correspondence was published in 2005 as *Dear Papa, Dear Hotch*, where Hotchner wrote: “The most resounding thing I learned from him was this: Don’t fear

failure, and don’t overestimate success. It was a tenet he lived by and a legacy I treasure.”

Hotchner worked at *Cosmopolitan* for two years before he left to become a freelance writer. His work has always focused on perceptive portrayals of individuals, from historical novels, such as *The Man Who Lived at the Ritz*, to biographies of Doris Day and Sophia Loren. He says, “The real reward for a writer is when you are able to capture, really capture a person on paper.”

## Sharing gifts of fun and learning

Hotchner maintains that “I never planned anything, ever. Opportunities came along.” The food business was no exception. It began with a batch of salad dressing that Hotchner helped Newman mix up in his basement with a canoe paddle. Newman’s Own became the first company to put all-natural foods in supermarkets. With the motto “There are three rules for running a business—fortunately we don’t know any of them,” the two friends succeeded by insisting on quality and relying on their own irreverent brand of public relations.

Twenty years ago, Hotchner and Newman used some of their early profits to create the Hole in the Wall Gang summer camp for children with life-threatening illnesses. Today, 14 affiliated camps have been built in the United States and abroad, which served 15,000 children and their families free of charge last year. Hotchner is a director of the Hole in the Wall Gang Fund and produces memorable benefit galas featuring Hollywood stars ranging from Jack Nicholson to Tom Hanks to Julia Roberts.

At Washington University, Hotchner has been helping students for 25 years. Henry I. Schvey, professor of drama and comparative literature, says: “Hotch’s generosity, encouragement, and friendship have been instrumental in building the Performing Arts Department. His support has included scholarships; collaboration with the Actor’s Studio that brought such legendary acting teachers as Shelley Winters and Ellen Burstyn to campus to work with students; and the A.E. Hotchner Playwriting Festival, a revival of the English 16 playwriting competition that he won as a student here in 1937.”

From Washington University, Hotchner received a Founders Day Distinguished Alumni Award in 1967, a Distinguished Alumni Award from the School of Law in 1992, and an honorary doctorate in 1992. Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton sums up his remarkable contribution: “A.E. Hotchner’s achievements have inspired generations of students, and he has enriched the creative and cultural life of our campus for generations to come.” —Susan Wooleyhan Caine





Courtesy Photo

Maris Grossman (left), A.B. '00; Linda Luo, A.B. '01; and Pankaj Sharma, A.B. '01, M.A.Ed. '02, enjoyed a Cardinals-Cubs game in Chicago.

## CONNECTING WITH Alumni Around the World

The Washington University community extends far beyond the Danforth Campus and School of Medicine. In fact, there are 26 Washington University clubs in the United States and 16 international clubs. These clubs reunite alumni and reinforce their connection to the University. Not only are alumni encouraged to

attend club events, but also parents and friends are welcome.

Around the globe, alumni gather to learn from visiting faculty, laugh with former classmates, or lend a hand to charitable organizations. Although there are event fees, no club fees are required. Here are some activities that University clubs have enjoyed this year:

### Atlanta

#### CLASSES WITHOUT QUIZZES: HIGH MUSEUM OF ART EXHIBITIONS

Touring with alumni, Professor Sarantis Symeonoglou, professor of art history and archaeology, discussed *The Louvre & the Ancient World* and *Inspiring Impressionism* exhibits.

#### ASK! ALUMNI SHARING KNOWLEDGE

Young professionals gathered for a networking reception and panel discussion.

### Boston

#### A WALKING TOUR OF BEACON HILL

Alumni and friends had a bagel breakfast followed by an exclusive tour of the Otis House and surrounding Beacon Hill.

### Chicago

#### CHICAGO TOUR HAUNTINGS

A busload of University alumni, family, and friends explored the most haunted areas of Chicago during an interactive excursion into the history and mystery of the city.





Courtesy Photo

Sara Hyatt (left), B.S.C.E. '05, M.S.E. '05, and Audra Bandy, B.S.C.E. '05, M.S.C.E. '05, joined nearly 50 alumni and friends for skating at the Steinberg Ice Skating Rink in St. Louis. Alumni also collected 150 books for the Succeeding with Reading program.



Courtesy Photo

Pragati Singh (left), A.B. '01, M.B.A. '06, and Alexis Palascak, A.B. '00, hosted the Washington, D.C., Alumni Club Toys for Tots happy hour.

## SAVE THE DATE Founders Day Celebration 2008

November 8, 2008  
America's Center  
6:30 p.m.

**P**lan now to join us to celebrate the 155th anniversary of the founding of Washington University. If you would like more information on Founders Day 2008, visit [foundersday.wustl.edu](http://foundersday.wustl.edu).

### Cleveland

#### CLASSES WITHOUT QUIZZES: THE LION KING

Professor Mary-Jean Cowell, associate professor of dance, led a discussion of the award-winning musical, *The Lion King*, with alumni before a matinee performance.

### Dallas

#### DAY OF CARING AT NORTH TEXAS FOOD BANK

A large and enthusiastic group gathered at the North Texas Food Bank early on a Saturday morning to help sort and box donated items for distribution.

### Kansas City

#### MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER GAME

An exciting night of soccer at Arrowhead Stadium drew dozens of participants.

### Los Angeles

#### PASADENA TOURNAMENT OF ROSES PARADE

Alumni helped the volunteer group Petal Pushers decorate floats for the 2008 Rose Parade.

### Miami

#### A NIGHT AT THE MIAMI IMPROV

Young alumni laughed the evening away with comedian Ian Baggy.

### New York

#### ANNUAL HOLIDAY TOYS FOR TOTS HAPPY HOUR

Alumni celebrated the holiday season by coming together and donating new toys for children in need.

#### NEW YORK CARES DAY

Alumni participated in a city-wide day of service by sprucing up New York City's public schools.

## PLAN TO ATTEND

## REUNION 2009

### April 17-19, 2009

#### CLASSES OF 1999, 2004, AND 2008

Join undergraduate alumni of Architecture, Art, Arts & Sciences, Business, and Engineering as they gather to celebrate their 10th, 5th, and 1st Reunions during Thurtene Weekend.

### May 14-17, 2009

#### CLASSES OF 1944, '49, '54, '59, '64, '69, '74, '79, '84, AND '89

Mark your calendars to attend the undergraduate Reunions for alumni of Architecture, Art, Arts & Sciences, Business, and Engineering.

If you want to volunteer to help make your Reunion one to remember, contact the Alumni Association at (314) 935-5212 or (800) 867-ALUM (toll-free), or send an e-mail to [alumniassociation@wustl.edu](mailto:alumniassociation@wustl.edu).



**We** want to hear about recent promotions, honors, appointments, travels, marriages (please report marriages after the fact), and births, so we can keep your classmates informed about important changes in your lives.

Entries may take up to three issues after submission to appear in the Magazine; they are published in the order in which they are received.

## ALUMNI CODES

AR Architecture	GL Grad. Law	MT Manual Training
BU Business	GM Grad. Medicine	NU Nursing
DE Dentistry	GN Grad. Nursing	OT Occupa. Therapy
EN Engineering	GR Grad. Arts & Sciences	PT Physical Therapy
FA Art	HA Health Care Admin.	SI Sever Institute
GA Grad. Architecture	HS House Staff	SU Sever Inst. Undergrad.
GB Grad. Business	LA Arts & Sciences	SW Social Work
GD Grad. Dentistry	LW Law	TI Tech. & Info. Mgmt.
GF Grad. Art	MD Medicine	UC University College

50s

**Cynthia Kagan Frohlichstein**, UC 50, received first prize for children's fiction in the 2008 Communications Contest sponsored by Missouri Professional Communicators for her book, *The Perils of the Peanut Butter Kid*. The book also was selected as "Best Book of 2007" in local children's books by the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*. Web site: [www.perilsofthepeanutbutterkid.com](http://www.perilsofthepeanutbutterkid.com)

**Irving Margol**, LA 51, GR 52, is chairman of the Holocaust and War Victims Tracing Center in Baltimore. The center's main purpose is to meet the needs of survivors and their families, to learn their fates, and to link surviving members. Irv and his wife, Myrna, reside in Encino, Calif.

**Walter "Wally" H.**

**Holmen**, AR 59, received the Jim Butler Memorial Award on Oct. 27, 2007, for "distinguished service, inspired fellowship, and outstanding service to the East Bay Oakland Chapter of the Construction Specifications Institute (CSI) and the West Region." Holmen has served the chapter in many capacities, including secretary, program chair, and past president. He also has served the region as past and current director. Though retired, he maintains a home office for designing residential projects, and he enjoys golf and swimming.

60s

**Lawrence A. Coben**, HS 60, is the author of *Anna's Shtetl*,

Please send news to:

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in St. Louis  
Campus Box 1086  
One Brookings Drive  
St. Louis, MO 63130-4899

Fax (314) 935-8533

E-mail [wustlmagclassmates@wustl.edu](mailto:wustlmagclassmates@wustl.edu)

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a biography that presents a woman's viewpoint of shtetl life. Coben spoke at the 2007 St. Louis Jewish Book Festival, the largest in the United States. A reviewer has said that *Anna's Shtetl* "[presents] life in the Russian shtetl with a very talented brush."

**Merle Fischlowitz**, GR 61, was honored by the Jewish Family Service of San Diego with the JFS "Mitzvah Award" for his work in having brought a new senior center to North Inland San Diego County. He worked more than 12 years to increase Jewish community activities in that growing part of San Diego.

**Charles U. Kruger**, GR 64, published a collection of poetry titled *Sourcing*. Kruger resides in Ireland.

**Julia "Julie" Azuma**, FA 65, was recognized by *Cambridge Who's Who* for her dedication to helping children with autism and other developmental disabilities. Azuma is the founder and president of Different Roads to Learning, Inc., a company that creates comprehensive product lines designed to educate and inspire the developmentally challenged as well as those who care for them.

**Carol (Coonce) Ball**, FA 65, retired in March 2007 following 35 years at the General Council of the Assemblies of God in Springfield, Mo. Over the years, she held a variety of positions, including editor, graphics supervisor, manager of marketing, director of advertising and design, and project director. She also taught illustration at Drury College (now Drury University)

and art history at Evangel University, both in Springfield. Carol and her husband, Gary, have been married 43 years and enjoy good health, traveling, snow skiing, and volunteer activities. Although they do not have any children of their own, they have been very involved in the lives of eight children for whom they served as designated legal guardians in the event anything happened to their birth parents.

**Jonathan S. Gaynin**, LW 65, has a practice both in the United States and in China. He currently is representing a Chinese company in establishing a business in Russia, which requires him to travel to both countries.

**Priscilla (Perci) Chester**, FA 67, held a one-woman exhibition of her paintings, titled *PORTRAITS: Perci Chester*, at the Women's Club of Minneapolis during March and April 2008.

**Jacob W. Reby**, BU 68, was elected the state chair for the American College of Mortgage Attorneys in the state of Missouri. Reby is a member of the corporate department in the St. Louis office of Lewis, Rice & Fingersh, LC.

**Gerald "Jerry" N. Padawer**, LA 69, was elected managing director at Morgan Keegan & Co., Inc., one of the nation's largest regional full-service brokerage and investment banking firms.

70s

**David Detjen**, LA 70, LW 73, was selected to receive the Order of Merit from the Federal Republic of Germany.

**Mark S. Gold**, LA 71, was promoted from interim chair to chair of the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Florida College of Medicine. He also serves as the Disney Eminent Scholar and Distinguished Professor in the Department of Psychiatry, Neuroscience, Anesthesiology, Community Health, and Family Medicine. As a researcher and inventor, Gold has worked for more than 35 years to develop models for understanding the effects of tobacco and other drugs on the brain and behavior. He has authored more than 900 medical articles, chapters, and abstracts, and written 12 professional books. (See [magazine.wustl.edu/spring07/addiction.htm](http://magazine.wustl.edu/spring07/addiction.htm).)

**Hank Klibanoff**, LA 71, received the 2008 Clarence Cason Award in Nonfiction Writing from the University of Alabama College of Communication and Information Sciences. Klibanoff is the managing editor of the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* and co-author of *The Race Beat*, a book about the

news coverage of the civil rights movement in the South. (See [magazine.wustl.edu/summer07/racebeat.htm](http://magazine.wustl.edu/summer07/racebeat.htm).)

**Joe Madison**, LA 71, was ranked No. 18 on *Talker Magazine's* list of 100 Most Important Radio Talk Hosts. Madison is an activist radio talk show host known as "The Black Eagle." In March 2008, Madison led a delegation of radio talk show personalities on a mission to help refugees in the war-torn region of Sudan. The group delivered several thousand survival kits to Sudanese displaced from their homes by war.

**Sanford V. Teplitzky**, LA 71, was selected for the 2008 issue of *Maryland Super Lawyers*. Teplitzky, an attorney at Ober|Kaler in Baltimore, appears in the "Top 50" Super Lawyers section.

**Ken Kotiza**, GB 72, is vice president/producer at Welsch, Flatness & Lutz, a provider of insurance, financial, and risk management services with special expertise in the construction, health-care, and manufacturing industries. Kotiza handles new business development and helps the company develop relationships with key community leaders.

**Harish Shah**, GA 72, and his firm, Shah Kawasaki Architects, completed a public works building addition in Contra Costa County, Calif., one month ahead of schedule. The new 12,000-square-foot addition incorporates the county's needs for expansion, while remaining sensitive to nearby residents and the environment.

**Howard Birnberg**, GB 74, and his wife relocated from Chicago to Carmel, Calif., overlooking the Pacific Ocean and Pebble Beach. Their son, 19, is attending Whittier College in Los Angeles.

**Dennis C. Dickerson**, GR 74, GR 78, earned a master's of divinity degree from Vanderbilt University in December 2007. He is the James M. Lawson, Jr. Professor of History at Vanderbilt.

**Diane K. Killion**, GR 75, is the director of St. Nicholas Pre-School, a community school in St. Louis. The pre-school has an Early Head Start program for children ages 6 weeks to 36 months and a Head Start program for children ages 3 to 5. The school recently was awarded an ARCHS Grant, which allowed it to expand its program to include children ages 18 to 36 months.

**W. E. Moerner**, EN 75, EN 75, LA 75, was chosen to co-receive the Wolf Prize in Chemistry, the highest scientific prize in Israel, for founding a new field of science, optical detection and spectroscopy of single molecules. Moerner is the Harry S. Mosher



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ANSWERS ON PAGE 44

Professor of Chemistry and professor, by courtesy, of applied physics at Stanford University.

**Bruce E. Friedman**, LA 78, a principal in the Clayton, Mo., law firm of Paule, Camazine & Blumenthal, PC, was elected president of the Missouri Chapter of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers. Friedman practices exclusively in the area of family law, with particular emphasis in substantial net worth cases, high-end alimony, prenuptial agreements, and surrogacy law. He is listed among Missouri and Kansas Super Lawyers for 2007. He also has been selected for inclusion in the 2008 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*.

**Abigail "Abbie" Greene**, LA 78, is senior designer for Hamilton Exhibits in Indianapolis. Previously, she co-owned The Set Up & Company for 23 years and acted as creative director for the business, designing and fabricating backgrounds for film and video, as well as interior decor for museums, hospitals, and children's libraries. In 2007, Greene received the Business and Marketing Award for her exhibit design for the drug, Lunesta. She also is involved in welding and casting metal sculptures. She practices Sahaj Marg, a form of Raja Yoga, and enjoys volunteer work and traveling, including trips to New Zealand and Ireland in 2007.

**Krishna V. Prasad**, SI 78, SI 79, moved to Mysore, India, for his new job in nearby Bangalore, India. Prasad works for Tata Consultancy Services in developing knowledge-based solutions for the electric power sector.

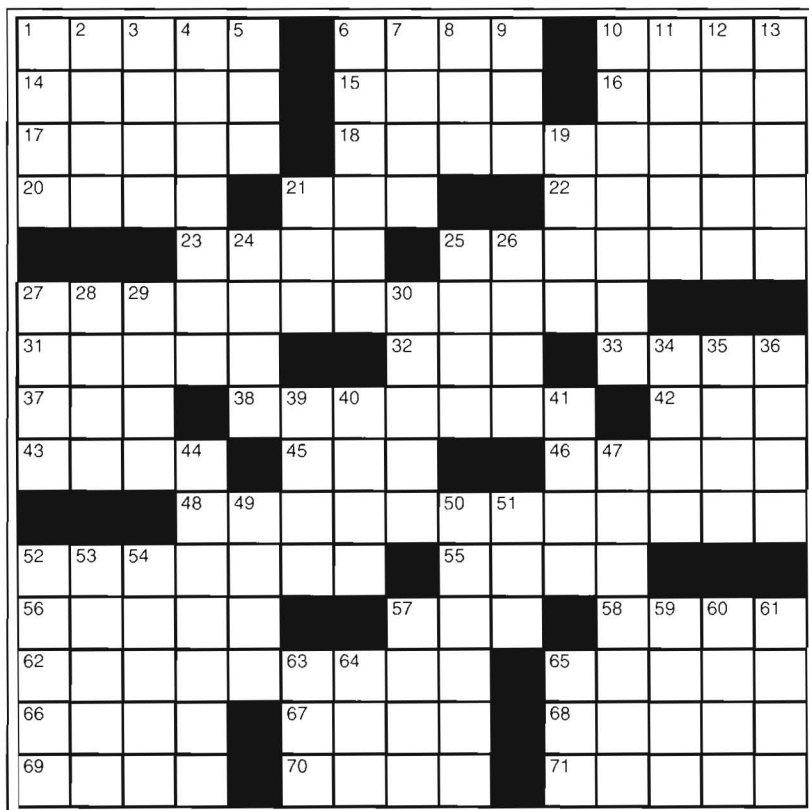
**Yue-Shen Chen**, GR 79, GR 81, has retired and moved back to Taiwan.

**Patrick H. Johnston**, GR 79, GR 85, is a researcher at NASA Langley Research Center. He develops ultrasonics nondestructive evaluation methods in support of NASA programs. Johnston is currently developing phased array inspection for friction stir welds in the new Ares launch vehicle.

**80s**

**Bruce Bikson**, LA 80, was promoted to colonel in the Army Reserve. He also is in solo dental practice. Bikson and his wife, Shari Berl, recently celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary. Berl is a family practice physician. Their son, Scott, 24, is a mechanical engineer at Henderson Engineers in Overland Park, Kan. Their daughter, Carrie, 21, is a junior at the University of Miami, majoring in marine biology.

**Alice C. (Wasserman) Darter**, LW 81, is the president of



## ACROSS

1. Bad scenes, to a hippie
6. Liquid measure
10. Acid's opposite
14. Rent again
15. Opera song
16. Correspondence abbr.'s
17. \_\_\_ & Young Architectural Photographs Collection
18. Plants with fan-shaped leaves
20. Sketch
21. Nautical affirmative
22. Compose
23. *Aquarius* musical
25. White meat parts of a fowl
27. Gaylord \_\_\_ Collection (2 words)
31. Staring at, poetically
32. Yang's partner
33. Gush
37. Literary monogram
38. Russell \_\_\_ 19th-Century Architectural Photography Collection
42. Poetic tribute
43. Dermatologist's concern
45. Personals acronym
46. Swift
48. Barbara Hepworth and Yoko Ono are found in this collection
52. Conditionally releases from jail
55. Equipment
56. Speechify
57. Sounds of satisfaction
58. Prefix for graph or normal
62. Terra \_\_\_, New World Explorations Collection
65. Navigational aid
66. Viewed
67. Former Cardinal Slaughter
68. *Eyes on the* \_\_\_, part of the Hampton Collection
69. Other
70. Sobbed
71. Off shore

## DOWN

1. With 12-Down, landmark slavery case that has a collection
2. Raise
3. \_\_\_ mater
4. "Golly!"
5. Kin of rds.
6. Collection with 1st-century BC documents
7. "Dies \_\_\_" (hymn)
8. Nothing, to a Brit
9. Scottish cap
10. Sells out
11. They cast no votes
12. See 1-Down
13. Curvy letters
19. Pitcher
21. Suffer
24. Great serves
25. Naval prison
26. Indian princess
27. Ram QB Bulger
28. "\_\_\_ Betty"
29. Talk back to
30. Poet Lord \_\_\_
34. Bursts
35. Do magazine work
36. Unites
39. Weekly magazine
40. Avails
41. Spanish miss: abbr.
44. Like some shoes
47. Lambert, for example
49. Designer Cassini
50. Shocked
51. Legal thing
52. Composure
53. Synthetic fabric
54. Relays and dashes
57. Perched on
59. Crossword cuckoos
60. Level
61. Region
63. Fresh
64. Chemical suffix
65. Health resort



Darter Specialties, Inc., a Cheshire, Conn., business that provides in-house embroidery and screen-printing services, as well as laser-engraved awards and promotional products. Darter Specialties was named the Harold Webster Smith Business of the Year in 2006. In August 2007, the company was awarded a multi-state/multi-million dollar contract for decorated apparel through the Massachusetts Department of Procurement.

**David B. Cohen**, LA 82, is a forecasting and fiscal analyst for the state of Texas. His wife, Bonnie, works in special education at an elementary school. Their older daughter, Rebecca, will begin at the University of Texas in fall 2008 and plans on majoring in special education. Their younger daughter, Sarah, is a sophomore in high school. Both girls teach Sunday school. David received the Grinspoon-Steinhardt Award in Teaching Excellence, which includes a free trip to Israel with other teachers in summer 2008.

**Rita Roth**, GR 82, won the 2007 National Jewish Book Award in the category of Jewish Family Literature for *The Power of Song and Other Sephardic Tales*. The collection of Jewish folktales from the Mediterranean emphasizes Jewish values.

**Ralph Cunningham**, LA 83, is the co-founder and principal of Cunningham Quill Architects in Washington, D.C. The firm won 18 design awards in 2007—one of the highest tallies of commendations in a single year for an architectural firm in the Washington area. Four of the awards were national, including two from *Remodeling* magazine; one from *Custom Home* magazine; and one from the Congress for the New Urbanism, which awarded Cunningham Quill a Charter Award for work that reflects the principles of smart growth and exceptional design.

**Jill S. Goldsmith**, LA 84, is the managing partner of the Phoenix office of the law firm Bowman and Brooke LLP. She practices civil litigation throughout the Southwest. She lives in Phoenix with her daughter, Nicole, 13.

**Mark A. Peterson**, LA 84, is vice president of STV, an award-winning professional firm offering engineering, architectural, planning, environmental, and construction management services. STV is located in Douglassville, Pa.

**Nick K. Rodes**, EN 84, EN 84, is principal fire protection engineer for a 650-employee, multi-disciplinary consulting firm. He has been married to his wife, Barbara, for 16 years. They have a daughter, 13, and a son, 7.

**Julie Compton**, LA 85, LW 88, has written her first novel, titled

*Tell No Lies*. The book is a psychological and legal thriller set in St. Louis about an idealistic young prosecutor who gradually trades his principles and comfortable life for ambition and desire. *Tell No Lies* was released in the United Kingdom in February 2008 and in the United States in May 2008.

**Nancy K. Peterson**, LA 85, was elected president of the Nebraska Criminal Defense Attorneys for the 2007–2008 term. For the past 10 years, Peterson has been living and practicing law in Lincoln, Neb., where she recently established her own firm providing representation exclusively in the area of criminal defense. She was previously assistant public defender in DeKalb County, Ga. Peterson and her husband, Todd Chromzak, have two kids (Zoe, 13, and Dane, 10) and two dogs (Fergie and CoCo). In her free time, Peterson enjoys yoga, tennis, and the occasional glass of wine. Web site: [www.nkpetersonlaw.com](http://www.nkpetersonlaw.com)

**Tomas Gislason**, EN 87, EN 87, is the head of IT and operational risk management at Audur Capital, a financial service company in Iceland.

**Anthony J. Greene**, LA 87, is an associate professor at the University of Wisconsin in Milwaukee. He and his wife, Krista, announce the birth of a son, Jude. In 2008, Greene received tenure and a federal research grant from NIH/NIDA. E-mail: [ag@uwm.edu](mailto:ag@uwm.edu)

**Carl P. Moyer**, LA 87, is the director of the trade consulting group at Stewart & Stewart. He lives in Washington, D.C., with his wife, Susan, and his daughter, Sophie.

**Abbey Koplovitz**, LA 88, has a Boston-based residential interior design firm, AbbeyK, Inc. She was recently featured on the PBS television series *This Old House*, Newton. Web sites: [www.AbbeyK.com](http://www.AbbeyK.com); [www.OnInteriorDesign.com](http://www.OnInteriorDesign.com)

**David Haven Blake**, GR 89, GR 94, co-edited the book *Walt Whitman, Where the Future Becomes Present*. Blake is an associate professor of English at the College of New Jersey and author of *Walt Whitman and the Culture of American Celebrity*.

**Carol (Campbell) Maxwell**, GR 89, GR 94, has moved to Morehead, Ky., where her husband, Bruce, was recruited to be assistant provost at Morehead State University. Maxwell has been approached about a research position but wants to settle in first.

**Pravin B. Rao**, GB 89, joined the law firm of Perkins Coie LLP in Chicago as a partner in the firm's litigation practice.

He provides guidance to clients in many areas: insider trading, accounting fraud, copyright infringement, antitrust, tax, money laundering, criminal forfeiture, and other white-collar criminal issues. Rao returned to the private sector after lengthy public service as a prosecutor with the U.S. Attorney's Office, the Securities and Exchange Commission, and the Cook County State's Attorney's Office in Chicago.

**Jeremy Richardson**, LA 89, was named a partner of the Phillips Nizer law firm, where he represents several high-end children's apparel and accessories companies. He lives in New York City with his wife, Marisa Cohen, and their daughters, Bellamy, 6, and Molly, 4.

**Rena L. Singer**, LA 89, took a break from freelancing in Africa to have two children, Benjamin, 5, and Eden, 3. The family moved to Jerusalem in 2005, where Singer wrote about stories from the West Bank and Israel. They have recently relocated to Tokyo, where Singer hopes to continue writing.

## 90s

**Jason "Jay" Fisher**, LA 90, won two gold medals for the U.S. Judo Team in the senior and masters open-weight categories at the Pan Am Maccabiah Games in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in December 2007. He also won a bronze medal as part of the U.S. squad in the team judo competition.

**Karen Koenig**, LA 90, LW 93, and Mark Winarsky were married on Sept. 8, 2007. The couple resides in Atlanta, where Karen practices immigration law at Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker LLP, and Mark is an IT project manager for the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention.

**Katsuhiko Okada**, GB 90, is an associate professor of finance at Kwansei Gakuin University. He really enjoys working in academics.

**Jeff Taraday**, LA 90, lives in Seattle with his wife, Patricia, and his children, Lola, 4, and Wilson, 2. A lawyer for the last 10 years, he recently started a new firm, Morris & Taraday, PC. The firm limits its practice to eminent domain, land use, real estate, and municipal law. E-mail: [jeff@morris-taraday.com](mailto:jeff@morris-taraday.com)

**Todd Brandt**, LA 91, GA 95, and his wife, **Jill (D'Amico) Brandt**, LA 93, live in Rocky River, Ohio, with their three daughters: Abby, Lydia, and Vivian. Todd is a principal and senior project architect at ka, inc. in Cleveland, Ohio, and also serves on the zoning and

building appeals board in Rocky River. Additionally, he is the Nation Chief of the Cleveland-area YMCA's Westshore Adventure Princesses, an organization dedicated to the relationships between fathers and daughters. Jill operates her own firm, Brandt Architecture, LLC, and serves on the design and construction board of review in Rocky River. She also is involved in the Rocky River Junior Women's Club as chairperson of the assistance program.

**Kimberly (Link) Carper**, LA 91, and her husband, Brent, announce the birth of Jack Emerson on Dec. 30, 2007. He joins big sister, Marissa, 2. The family resides in Seattle. E-mail: [bandk.mail@comcast.net](mailto:bandk.mail@comcast.net)

**Ian R. Scheinmann**, BU 91, and his wife, Rachel, announce the birth of Liora Chana on Feb. 8, 2008. She joins big sisters, Sarah, 5, and Rebecca, 4, and big brother, Benjamin, 1. The family resides in Bala Cynwyd, Pa. Ian is a real estate attorney in the law firm Greenberg Traurig in Philadelphia.

**Kirstin (Baum) Sumner**, BU 91, LW 00, and her husband, Scott, announce the birth of Graham Hubert on Nov. 30, 2007. The family resides in Chicago, where Kirstin is associate general counsel of a national senior housing company.

**Abby Weinstock**, LA 91, and her husband, Shawn Sefret, announce the birth of Aliza Rose and Hannah Leah on Feb. 5, 2008. The twins join big sister, Shayna. The family resides in Baltimore.

**Jordan B. Forman**, BU 92, was promoted to partner at the law firm of Kaufman, Miller & Sivertsen in Atlanta. Forman engages in a general civil practice, including business litigation, collections, bankruptcy, real estate, lien law, eviction law, and transactions. He lives with his wife of six years, Jodi, and his two sons, Joshua, 4, and Jared, 1. E-mail: [jbf@kauflaw.net](mailto:jbf@kauflaw.net)

**Dea Hoover**, BU 92, the principal of Are We There Yet?, LLC, announces the acquisition of Discover St. Louis Tours, a destination management company. Hoover is active in the St. Louis travel industry, serving as vice president of the Professional Tour Guide Association of Metropolitan St. Louis and a committee member for the Missouri Showcase. She also is a board member of the Historical Society of University City and The Backers of the Repertory Theatre of St. Louis.

**Kimberly Jessie**, LA 92, and her husband, Daniel Unger, announce the birth of Addison Joy Jessie on Feb. 7, 2008. The family resides in Bethesda, Md. Kimberly is a child clinical psychologist in solo





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own legacy at  
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University.

*See page 9.*

*Robert S. Brookings*



Create your  
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*See page 9.*



Recognizing the Importance of Planned Gifts  
Washington University in St. Louis



## WASHINGTON PROFILE

**Robert Behnken, B.S.Phys. '92, B.S.M.E. '92**

# Reaching for the Stars

**E**ver since his days at Washington University, astronaut Robert Behnken, B.S.Phys. '92, B.S.M.E. '92, has been a hands-on-hardware kind of guy.

"I liked that professors were running hands-on experiments, making connections between bookwork and hardware," he says.

No wonder then, given his interest in hardware, that he was keen on his recent trip to the International Space Station via the space shuttle, which the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) calls "the most complex machine ever built."

For Behnken, a Air Force R.O.T.C. scholar and the University's Outstanding Mechanical Engineering Senior of 1992, that urge to get his hands on the hardware also figured in his becoming an Air Force test engineer.

"I thought that flying was better than sitting behind an engineer's desk—which I could always do when I got too old to fly," says Behnken.

His work as a test engineer prepared him for entry into NASA's astronaut training program in 2000. But nothing prepared him for the thrill of his first space shuttle liftoff on March 11, 2008, from Cape Canaveral, Florida.

"I've flown everything from high-performance fighter jets to single-engine Cessnas, but there is nothing like liftoff," says Behnken, "where you're just along for the ride, with a lot of noise, vibration, and light."

He describes ascending through intermittent bands of clouds illuminated orange by the space shuttle *Endeavor's* jets against the black night sky as "a good light-show and pretty exciting."

Exciting, too, were his space walks where he was tethered to the International Space Station with only the clear bubble of his helmet between him and outer space.

"The panoramic view is incredible," says Behnken, "the sense of motion with the Earth turning beneath you, watching a sunset or sunrise through a storm."

Coincidentally, while Behnken was walking in space, fellow alum Barry Tobias, B.S.M.E. '02, M.S.M.E. '03, was on the ground at United Space Alliance in Houston, running the International Space Station operations room supporting the astronauts.

private practice, and Daniel is a senior web developer and manager at a government contracting firm. E-mail: drkajessie@msn.com

**Tara Kolff Shehab, LA 92,** and her husband, Ziad, announce the birth of Hugo on Feb. 5, 2008. Tara is taking time off from work to stay home with Hugo.

**Gary Rosenblum, LA 92,** moved to San Francisco after living in New York City for 13 years. He is the director of brand strategy at Abbott Diabetes Care.

**Colleen (Trackwell) Jacobson Sestero, PT 92,** and her husband, Bob, announce the birth of Kathryn "Kate" in January 2007. She joins big brothers Matthew, Adam, Quinn, and Jack. Colleen is still working part time as a pediatric physical therapist in the local school district in Spokane, Wash.

**Leah (Sugarman) Siegel, LA 92,** and her husband, Blaine, announce the birth of Noah Jackson on Nov. 23, 2007. Leah is the director of development for the American Friends of the Israel Museum in New York City.

**Andrew "Drew" Tulchin, LA 92,** moved to Santa Fe to launch his own business, Social Enterprise Associates, that is dedicated to promoting "triple bottom line" benefits for the for- and nonprofit world. Tulchin has done community economic development work in Afghanistan, Haiti, and Mozambique, as well as in the United States. Web site: [www.socialenterprise.net](http://www.socialenterprise.net)

**Dauria (Turk) Wheeler, LA 92,** and her husband, **Michael J. P. Wheeler, EN 93, SI 95,** announce the birth of Eliot Joseph on May 25, 2007. He joins big sister, "Lili" Grace, 7. Contact: (314) 692-0580

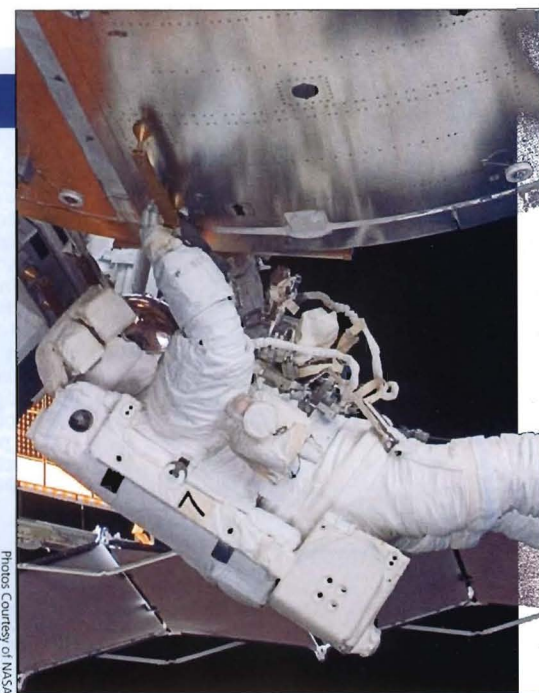
**Tracy (Wolchok) Freeman, LA 93,** and her husband, Chad, announce the birth of Hailey Jayne in September 2007. She joins big sister, Abigail Rose, 2. The family recently moved to Maplewood, N.J. E-mail: [twolchok@hotmail.com](mailto:twolchok@hotmail.com)

**Steven Haider, LA 93,** lives in East Lansing, Mich., with his wife, Jen, and their son, Samuel, 1. Steven is an associate professor of economics at Michigan State University.

**Hyonchol Joo, GB 93,** works for Kookmin Bank, the largest bank in Korea. He is the general manager of a branch in downtown Seoul.

**Laurie Beth Moret, LA 93,** and her husband, **Scott Levine, BU 94,** announce the birth of Mia Dylan on Jan. 25, 2008.

**Jennifer Barnett Reed, LA 93,** and her husband, Matt, announce the birth of James



*Robert Behnken participated in the recent Endeavor mission to the International Space Station.*

Behnken's journey to space seemingly began at Washington University. His exceptional performance as a student catapulted him into work as a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow at the California Institute of Technology, where he earned M.S. and Ph.D. degrees and conducted research in nonlinear control, including software implementation development and hardware construction.

He then began active duty in the Air Force. At Edwards Air Force Base, he was assigned to the F-22 Combined Test Force, working as the lead flight test engineer for Raptor 4004 and as a special projects test director. He also flew in F-15 and F-16 aircraft before being selected as a NASA mission specialist in July 2000.

In addition to his space walks on the recent mission, which delivered the Japanese Logistics Module and the Canadian Special Purpose Dexterous Manipulator to the International Space Station, Behnken operated the space station robotic arm.

He says dexterity also was required in living for two weeks with six other astronauts in tight quarters. "You have to schedule everything," says Behnken. "It's like having a family with five kids."

Now he's looking ahead to more time in space—possibly another shuttle mission before the program is scheduled to close down in 2010. Then perhaps a long-duration mission as NASA prepares for a potential Mars flight. Or, possibly, a trip to the moon as NASA attempts another moon landing. For Behnken, at 37 the youngest NASA astronaut with space experience, time is still a crucial factor.

"If my health and age are good," says Behnken, then those trips could materialize for him.

—Rick Skwiot





Wray on July 27, 2007. Jennifer is associate editor at the *Arkansas Times*, an alternative weekly newspaper in Little Rock. E-mail: jennifer@arktimes.com

**Janine N. Smith**, LA 93, recently moved to Washington, D.C., and is director of pediatric ophthalmology and strabismus at Howard University Hospital.

**Robert Yosowitz**, EN 93, and his wife, Amy, announce the birth of Blake Vaughn on Jan. 17, 2008. The family resides in Tempe, Ariz.

Robert is a manager in the technology department at Arizona State University, and Amy is a senior manager for software quality assurance at the University of Phoenix.

**Janak Acharya**, LA 94, is assistant clinical professor for the University of California, San Francisco Emergency Medicine Residency Program in Fresno. His wife, Tori, is on the faculty of the UCSF-Fresno pediatric residency. They have three children: Jaxson, Calvin, and Duncan.

**Paul D. Anderson**, EN 94, and his wife, Andrea, announce the birth of Norah Grace. Paul is a senior project manager and environmental engineer with CDM's Kansas City, Mo., office. Andrea is a family practice physician. E-mail: pdakc@yahoo.com

**Sharon Shapiro Galin**, LA 94, and her husband, David, announce the birth of Sarah Isabel on Oct. 9, 2007. She joins siblings, Rachel and Jeremy. The family resides in Shaker Heights, Ohio, where Sharon volunteers in the community and works as a consultant for the Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland. David is a patent attorney.

**Barry Levy**, LA 94, was the screenwriter for *Vantage Point*, his first major studio film. The movie stars Dennis Quaid, Matthew Fox, Forest Whitaker, William Hurt, and Sigourney Weaver. It tells the story of an assassination attempt on the president from multiple points of view. The movie opened on Feb. 22, 2008.

**Brenda (Wolkstein) Lowenberg**, LA 94, and her husband, Marc, announce the birth of Shira Elle on Aug. 19, 2007. The family resides in Audubon, Pa. E-mail: brendalowenberg@yahoo.com

**Amy (Ortner) Mandell**, LA 94, and her husband, David, announce the birth of Jocelyn Jane on Oct. 8, 2007. The family resides in Los Angeles. Jocelyn joins a family of Washington University alumni—grandparents **Charles Ortner**, LA 67, and the late **Jane Gold Ortner**, LA 67, and cousin **Barrie Rosen**, LA 99.

**Devi (Nathan) Weier**, LA 94, GR 99, and her husband, **John Weier**, LA 93, announce the birth of Asha Elizabeth on Dec. 8, 2007. The family resides in San Francisco, where Devi works in portfolio planning at Genentech and John is a freelance writer.

**Michelle (Landau) Brooks**, LA 95, and her husband, Gary, announce the birth of Sophia Avery on Dec. 25, 2007. She joins big sister Olivia, 3. Michelle continues to work at the Central Agency for Jewish Education in St. Louis as the director of school services. E-mail: michellebrooks@hotmail.com

**Thomas Cunningham**, GM 95, was appointed a shareholder of Brooks Kushman, a national leader in intellectual property law.

**Jessica Plattner**, FA 95, is living in Guanajuato, Mexico, where she is working on a project for her Fulbright.

**Jeff Powrie**, EN 95, GB 95, and his wife, Kelly, are moving to North Carolina with their two children—Ian, 4, and Lauren, 1. Jeff is a senior manager in Deloitte Consulting's customer transformation practice. E-mail: jpowrie@hotmail.com

**Julie (Newman) Rubinsky**, LA 95, and her husband, **David Rubinsky**, BU 93, LW 96, announce the birth of Zoe Alexandra and Victoria "Tori" Blake on April 25, 2007. They join big brother, Gabriel, 3. E-mail: julie\_newman@yahoo.com

**Vonetta I. Brown**, LA 96, is an attorney at Covington & Burling in Washington, D.C. She would like to know more alumni in the D.C. area. E-mail: mizbrown@comcast.net

**Jill (Howell) Brown**, LA 96, and her husband, David, announce the birth of Owen Zachary on Dec. 25, 2007. He joins big brother, Brett, 2. The family resides in Lakeland, Fla.

**Mala (Ahuja) Harker**, LA 96, was elected partner at the New York law firm of Friedman Kaplan Seiler & Adelman LLP, where she concentrates her practice on complex commercial litigation and arbitration, securities litigation, and white-collar criminal defense. She and her husband, Bill, live in Brooklyn Heights. Bill serves as general counsel and senior vice president of human resources at Sears Holdings Corp., based in Hoffman Estates, Ill.

**Nita Kulkarni**, LA 96, MD 00, and her husband, **Iqbal Brainch**, LA 96, announce the birth of Devin and Anaya on Nov. 29, 2007. The family resides in Chicago, where Iqbal is the chief marketing officer at Advantage Futures and Nita is an attending physician at Northwestern Memorial Hospital. E-mail: ibrainch@mac.com

**David M. Mandell**, LA 96, is president and CEO of one of the fastest-growing liquor companies in the nation, The p.i.n.k. Spirits Company. The company was the first to create a new category in caffeinated vodka without extra calories, flavor, or color, known as p.i.n.k. vodka. This new vodka was rated as a "superb" spirit by *Wine Enthusiast* magazine and as one of the top 50 spirits of 2007. The p.i.n.k. brand also was presented with 11 Beverage Dynamics Advertising and Promotion Awards, including five first-place honors and the American Graphic Design Award.

**Marisa (Feder) Marcus**, LA 96, and her husband, Seth, announce the birth of Ryan Bradley on Oct. 14, 2007. The family resides in Rockville, Md.

**Michelle (Pogue) Teel**, EN 96, and her husband, Michael, announce the birth of Katelyn Michelle on Jan. 8, 2008. She joins big brother John Michael. The family resides in Fulton, Mo. Michelle and Michael are civil engineers for the Missouri Department of Transportation in Jefferson City. Michael is



## Of Mouse and Man

The Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts recently honored Herb Weitman, B.S.B.A. '50, with a retrospective exhibit showcasing some three dozen of his images. Weitman was a University photographer for more than four decades, before retiring as director of University Photographic Services in 1994.

During his tenure, he played a vital role in presenting images of the University to the nation and the world. The exhibit, which ran mid-January through mid-March, included a number of iconic portraits and campus scenes that originally appeared in the University's alumni magazine. One was a small white mouse (see above) that stares calmly into the camera.

Curated by Richard Krueger, associate professor of photography, and Jennifer Colten, senior lecturer, both in the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts, the retrospective also marked the dedication of new facilities for the Sam Fox School's Weitman Gallery. Established in 1995, the Weitman Gallery was originally located off campus in the Lewis Center building in University City. The new space is on the lower level of recently renovated Steinberg Hall, immediately adjacent to offices and studios for the Digital Imaging & Photography major area. In the late 1960s, Weitman helped to found the photography program, which moved from Lewis Center to Steinberg last summer.

The School hosted some 250 faculty, staff, and former students for the opening of the exhibit.



## WASHINGTON PROFILE

Naomi Greenfield, A.B. '00, and  
Sara Taksler, A.B. '01

# Twisting Their Way to the Big Screen

maintenance engineer for Central Missouri, and Michelle is assistant director for motor carrier services. E-mail: teelracing@yahoo.com

**Christine (O'Brien) Brittle**, LA 97, and her husband, Christian, announce the birth of Zachary Ryan on March 9, 2008. He joins big sister, Kaitlyn, 3. The family resides in Arlington, Va., where Christine runs a small market research company focused on improving government communications. E-mail: christine@uncommoninsights.com

**Kevin Center**, LA 97, and Melissa McCracken were married on Oct. 6, 2007. The wedding guests included many University alumni. The couple resides in Atlanta. Kevin is the senior manager in the business planning department at the Institute of Nuclear Power Operations, and Melissa is an epidemiologist with the American Cancer Society.

**Anne (Baecker) Duncan**, BU 97, GR 05, and her husband, **Judson Duncan**, EN 97, announce the birth of Sarah Marie on June 3, 2007. She joins big sister, Martha Elizabeth, 3. The family has relocated to Singapore, where Judson is the director of Asia Pacific marketing for Emerson Process Management. E-mail: annie\_duncan@yahoo.com or judson\_duncan@yahoo.com

**Juan M. Estrada**, LA 97, and his wife, Irene Chase, announce the birth of Julian Tsai in July 2007.

**Christopher G. Hill**, LW 97, was named to Virginia's Legal Elite in construction law. Hill is an attorney at DurretteBradshaw PLC in Richmond, Va.

**Gretchen Loeffler Peltier**, EN 97, and her husband, Rick, announce the birth of Myla Grace on March 14, 2008. The family resides in New York City, where Gretchen is an Earth Institute postdoctoral fellow at Columbia University and Rick is a postdoctoral fellow at New York University. E-mail: gretchen-loeffler@yahoo.com

**Amy Tucker Ryan**, LW 97, joined the law firm of Martin, Leigh, Laws, and Fritzen, PC as a senior associate in the St. Louis office. Her practice is concentrated in bankruptcy and creditor's rights. She resides in Webster Groves, Mo., with her husband, Andy. E-mail: atr@mllfpc.com

**Mitchell E. Sava**, SI 97, is the CEO of an online start-up company that develops software and services for collaboration and innovation in public policy development. After completing a master's degree in public affairs at Harvard, Sava moved to London, where he has been active in innovation and entrepreneurship policy, and new media.

In Eliot Hall in fall 1999, students held an icebreaker to get to know one another, with each sharing a unique talent. When it was Sara Taksler's turn, she shared that she knew how to make balloon animals. The student next to her said, "My name is Naomi, and I was going to say the same thing!" Naomi Greenfield, A.B. '00 (English and American literature), and Sara Taksler, A.B. '01 (psychology), soon became close friends. In addition to being balloon twisters, both had an interest in filmmaking and often discussed a future artistic collaboration.

After graduating, the two teamed up to form a film production company, Eliot Lives Productions, a tribute to the now-demolished dorm where they met. Greenfield and Taksler combined their interests in balloon twisting and filmmaking and made *TWISTED: A Balloonumentary*, a feature-length documentary. Ten film festivals later, they are still enjoying their film's critical and popular success, as well as the reward of sharing their work with so many people.

The idea that balloon twisting can have a meaningful impact on people's lives may raise a few eyebrows, but Greenfield and Taksler's friendship is only a small case in point compared to the people featured in their movie. There is James, a grandfather in a tough Atlanta neighborhood, who uses balloon twisting to show kids there are better ways to make money than by selling drugs. There is Michelle, who makes "adult" balloons at parties and earns a six-figure salary doing so. There is John, a reformed felon who preaches the gospel using balloons. And there is Vera, an ambitious young woman from a trailer park who used the money from balloon twisting to get off welfare and become the first person in her family to attend college.

"We wanted this to be a story of depth," Taksler explains, "and for us this is a story about people who find a passion."

"The focus is really on the people, but the visuals of the balloons are striking," Greenfield adds. "We wanted to take this world and put it up on the big screen for everyone to see."

Greenfield, a creative producer at FableVision, an animation and multimedia studio in Boston, and Taksler, an associate producer in New York City for Comedy Central's *The Daily Show with Jon Stewart*, encountered many obstacles as first-time filmmakers. They



Naomi Greenfield (left) and Sara Taksler made a feature-length documentary about balloon twisting, their shared interest.

relied on long weekends of traveling, favors from co-workers (*The Daily Show's* host Jon Stewart narrates a brief animated sequence), and donations from friends and family to complete the film. They threw fundraising parties, sold T-shirts, and even auctioned off an executive producer credit on eBay.

Neither Greenfield nor Taksler attended film school; instead they learned the art of filmmaking firsthand by making *TWISTED: A Balloonumentary*. Their early footage sounded scratchy and was poorly lit, but in the course of making the film, they learned about lighting, sound, camera work, editing, post-production, and distribution. The final result is a polished, engaging, and moving film that premiered at the prestigious South by Southwest Film Festival in 2007.

"We showed it [at the Independent Film Festival of Boston] and got a standing ovation," Greenfield says. "When people came up to us afterward and said 'that really touched me,' or told us they laughed and cried, we knew it had evoked emotion, and we felt that we had done our job right."

What's next for these two filmmakers? "We're still trying to enjoy what's left of the ride with this movie," Taksler says. That includes selling the film internationally through their television distribution deal, pursuing theatrical distribution, and preparing for their upcoming DVD release (to be available at [www.twistedballoondoc.com](http://www.twistedballoondoc.com)).

A lot has happened since that day in Eliot Hall, and it is a testament to Greenfield and Taksler's ingenuity and friendship that they were able to accomplish the dreams they set for themselves as students. The slogan for *TWISTED* says it all: "Once you can make a balloon dog, you can do anything."

—Ryan Rhea, A.B. '96, M.A. '01



## CLASSMATES

He is a member of the Institute of Directors and was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures & Commerce.

**George J. Hruza**, GB 98, was elected the 2008 president of the St. Louis Metropolitan Medical Society, the association representing physicians in the St. Louis area. Hruza is medical director of the Laser & Dermatologic Surgery Center in Town & Country, Mo. He also is clinical associate professor of dermatology and otolaryngology/head and neck surgery at Saint Louis University.

**Jeremy R. Johnson**, EN 98, SI 01, is a senior project manager and operations manager for the industrial systems business group at CH2M HILL, Inc., in Dayton, Ohio. He and his wife, Stacey, have been married for more than three years, and they have a daughter, Addyson Michele, 1.

**Steven L. Johnston**, LW 98, is general counsel for the Oakland A's major league baseball team. His duties were recently expanded to include the position of general counsel for the San Jose Earthquakes major league soccer team. Johnston is now responsible for all legal and human resource matters for both professional sports teams.

**Libby (Silverman) Weiss**, BU 98, and her husband, Josh, announce the birth of Noah Bradley on Jan. 4, 2008. He joins big sister, Ilana Cara, 3. The family

resides in Scottsdale, Ariz., where Libby is a financial consultant with AG Edwards and Josh is the director of communications for American Traffic Solutions.

**Karen (Jaffee) Kalan**, BU 99, and her husband, Jeremy, announce the birth of Marissa Danielle on March 3, 2008. The family resides in Los Angeles, where Karen works for the regional marketing team of Whole Foods Market.

**Lori (Thomas) Khazen**, LA 99, and her husband, **Peter M. Khazen**, EN 99, announce the birth of Emary Antonia, in August 2007. Lori continues to run her own athletic training practice in St. Louis and serves as assistant coach for the Washington University women's soccer team. Peter is an IT auditor at AT&T.

**Rebecca Lawin McCarley**, LA 99, is continuing her business, SPARK Consulting, in Davenport, Iowa, as an architectural historian/historic preservation consultant in Iowa and northern Illinois. She and her husband, Bill, adopted three brothers from Ukraine in spring 2007: twins Patrick Artem and Justin Maksym, 4, and Lucas Oleg, 3.

**Brian Panek**, BU 99, and his wife, Kim, announce the birth of Caitlyn Reese on March 7, 2008. She joins big sister, Ella, 2. The family resides in Northbrook, Ill. Brian is the vice president of his family's business, Panek Precision.

00s

**Trishana (Woodard) Dailey**, EN 00, is an IS team leader at Edward Jones. She had previously worked at AT&T for six years.

**Lindsey (Wurzel) Glass**, BU 00, and her husband, **Brian Glass**, GB 00, announce the birth of Charlie Maxwell in May 2007. The family resides in Chesterfield, Mo. E-mail: lindseyandbrian@yahoo.com

**Sarah (Teal) Glasser**, LA 00, and her husband, **David Glasser**, BU 00, announce the birth of Samuel Emerson on March 25, 2008. The family resides in St. Louis.

**Lesley (Grantham) Grandstaff**, LA 00, and her husband, Armistead, announce the birth of Charlotte Lucy on Jan. 10, 2008. The family resides in Louisville, Ky.

**Bill Welborn**, GB 00, was named a principal with Edward Jones' holding company, the Jones Financial Cos. He is one of only 23 individuals chosen from more than 32,000 associates across the globe to join the firm's 303 principals.

**Kristin Harris**, FA 01, relocated from New York to Philadelphia. She is senior designer at Free People, an Urban Outfitters Inc. brand. Harris will be helping to jump start an intimate apparel line for the brand. Prior to her move, she was designing private label intimates and lingerie for American Eagle Outfitters, Frederick's of Hollywood, and Victoria's Secret.

**Karyn Kim**, LA 01, and Brian Kim were married in November 2007. The wedding party and guests included many University alumni. Karyn is a consultant for BASES in Chicago. She is also pursuing a nursing degree at Rush University. Brian is a senior systems engineer at Motorola.

**Kenneth Mitchell**, LA 01, celebrated his adult bar mitzvah in September 2007 at Congregation B-nai Emunah in San Francisco. He has been a member of the board of directors at Congregation since May 2007. He is an instructor/internship and university placement coordinator at EF International Language Schools.

**Elizabeth "Beth" Collins**, LW 02, and Scott Persson were married on Sept. 22, 2007. The couple resides in Las Vegas, where Beth is an associate in the Las Vegas office of Ranalli & Zaniel.

**Carrie Mae Dupic**, BU 02, has been practicing civil defense litigation for two years at Robinson & Wood, Inc., in San Jose, Calif. E-mail: cmd@robinsonwood.com

**Jill Lyon**, LA 02, was selected by her colleagues as the Pediatric

Resident Physician Educator of the Year for her second-year residency class. In addition to this honor, Jill received a funded trip to Honolulu, Hawaii, in May 2008 to attend the national meeting of the American Academy of Pediatrics. She is in her second of three years of pediatric residency training at the University of Iowa Children's Hospital in Iowa City.

**Meg Rincker**, GR 02, GR 06, was awarded the 2007 Carrie Chapman Catt Prize for Research on Women and Politics for her collaborative research on women's pathways to political influence in new and developing democracies. Rincker is a visiting assistant professor at Illinois Wesleyan University.

**Brooke Bagnall**, LA 03, is a member of Second City Touring Company. The company focuses on political and pop-culture satire using improv skits and audience participation. The company was formed by a group of college students in 1959 and is based in Chicago. Comedians such as Tina Fey, Steve Carell, and Stephen Colbert began their careers at Second City.

**Allison (Barrett) Carelli**, LA 03, is attending Boston University School of Medicine and plans on graduating in 2008.

**Chris Gannett**, GB 03, is vice president of strategic marketing for SONY BMG Music Entertainment's Commercial Music Group. Gannett will guide strategic marketing efforts to support the Commercial Music Group's goal of identifying, piloting, and launching new initiatives, while remaining focused on deals that benefit all SONY BMG labels and divisions.

**Jennifer Grusby**, LA 03, and **Josh Steiman**, LA 00, were married on Sept. 1, 2007, in St. Louis. The wedding party and guests included many University alumni. The couple resides in Springfield, Ill., where Jennifer will be starting a general surgery residency program at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine in July 2008. Josh is an attorney at Heavner, Scott, Beyers, and Mihlar in Decatur, Ill.

**Adam Marcus**, GR 03, LA 03, expects to graduate from Georgia Tech in August 2008 with his doctorate. He has accepted a position as a Gibbs Assistant Professor in Applied Mathematics at Yale. He is the first recipient of the Konig Prize in Discrete Mathematics, given to a junior researcher for outstanding research in an area of discrete mathematics.

**Jason E. Rothman**, LA 03, is working on his M.F.A. in design and technology at Parsons School of Design at the New School in New York City. He also is working

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### ANSWERS TO PUZZLE

1	D	2	R	3	A	4	G	5	S	6	P	7	I	8	N	9	T	10	B	11	A	12	S	13	E
14	R	E	L	E	T	15	A	R	I	A	16	E	N	C	S										
17	E	A	M	E	S	18	P	A	L	M	19	E	T	T	O	S									
20	D	R	A	W		21	A	Y	E		22	W	R	I	T	E									
					23	H	A	I	R		25	B	R	E	A	S	T	S							
27	M	28	U	29	S	I	C	L	I	30	B	R	A	R	Y										
31	A	G	A	Z	E					32	Y	I	N		33	S	34	P	35	E	36	W			
37	R	L	S			38	S	39	T	40	U	R	G	I	41	S	42	O	D	E					
43	C	Y	S	44	T			45	I	S	O				46	R	47	A	P	I	D				
						48	W	49	O	M	E	N	50	A	51	R	T	I	S	T	S				
52	P	53	A	54	R	O	L	E	S		55	G	E	A	R										
56	O	R	A	T	E					57	A	H	S		58	P	59	A	60	R	61	A			
62	I	N	C	O	G	63	N	64	I	T	A				65	S	O	N	A	R					
66	S	E	E	N		67	E	N	O	S					68	P	R	I	Z	E					
69	E	L	S	E		70	W	E	P	T					71	A	T	S	E	A					



## WASHINGTON PROFILE

Stephen Yablon, A.B. '75

# Designing a Passion for Architecture

as a sound designer and composer, and is completing a short film.

**Kent Shaw**, GR 03, is working on his doctorate in creative writing at the University of Houston. He has published a book of poetry, titled *Calenture*, that began as a master's thesis at Washington University.

**Charles A. Boswell**, GM 04, is an associate scientist at Genentech, Inc., in San Francisco. He works in the Department of Pharmacokinetic and Pharmacodynamic Sciences within the Early Development Organization.

**Sarah K. Chenault**, FA 04, moved to Austin, Texas, in October 2007. She works events at the Mexican American Cultural Center and will soon be teaching copper and tin smithing there. Chenault has begun dancing with Daniel Llanes, choreographer, musician, and poet. She also is dancing with the event company Tropical Productions, which does everything from Hawaiian to hip hop. In addition, she substitute teaches in area private schools, in the day-care to high school level.

**Lorri Fehlker**, LA 04, and **Andrew J. Martin**, LA 06, were married on May 19, 2007, on the groom's family farm. The wedding party and guests included many University alumni. The couple resides in Columbia, Mo., where Drew is attending veterinary school at the University of Missouri and Lorri is a physical therapist at Veterans Hospital.

**Elizabeth A. Herczeg-Konecny**, FA 04, moved to the Bay Area for her new job at the Museum of Craft and Folk Art in San Francisco. She also is developing her own crafting company, the Ministry of Craft. E-mail: ministryofcraft@gmail.com

**Kamaria Holt**, LA 04, is pursuing a doctoral degree in physical therapy at the University of Miami. She expects to graduate in 2009.

**Jamie Kull**, LA 04, and **David Galembo**, LA 04, were married on Jan. 19, 2008, in Philadelphia. The wedding party and guests included many University alumni. The couple resides in New Jersey, where Jamie is a judicial law clerk and David is an assistant prosecutor.

**Christopher R. Liang**, LA 04, and **Claudia L. Vergara** were married on Jan. 4, 2008, in Puerto Rico. Christopher earned a master's degree in curriculum, technology, and education reform from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He is a teacher at Academia Maria Reina in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Claudia will graduate from the University of Puerto Rico School of Medicine in June 2008.

**Cat (O'Connor) Olson**, LA 04, and her husband, **Richard**

One of Stephen Yablon's childhood hobbies led him to his true calling. Growing up in his hometown of Charleston, South Carolina, Yablon, A.B. '75, was always drawing, but "it never occurred to me that there was a profession in which I could use my artistic skills," he says. It wasn't until he entered Washington University and met a fellow student who was studying architecture that he realized design could be a career.

Yablon visited the architecture school and was accepted into the program his sophomore year. Before completing the program, however, he took some time off to pursue music, his other passion. He played professionally in Charleston and later in Europe.

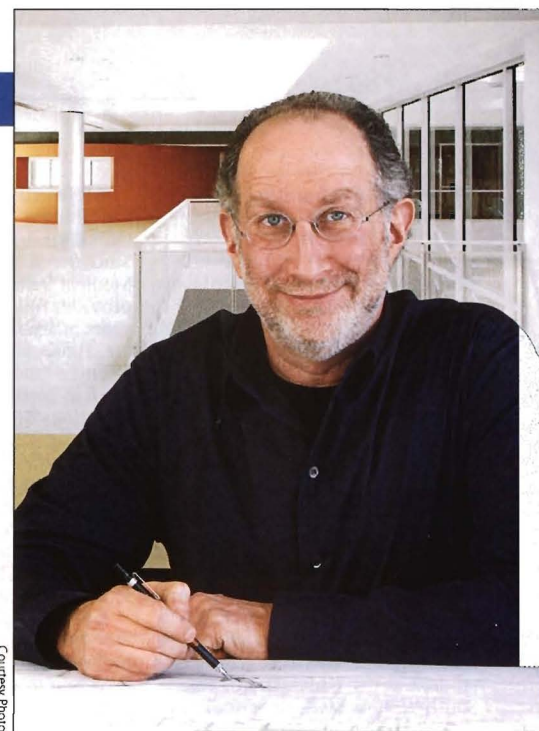
"While traveling, I spent most of my time there studying and sketching the architecture and public places of Paris and Rome and how Greek temples sat in the landscape," he says. "I figured that if I was this obsessed, it must be my true calling."

After graduating from the University, Yablon worked for architectural firms in Boston before earning a master's degree in architecture from Columbia University in New York. He then spent 13 years in several New York City firms, including Gwathmey Siegel & Associates Architects and I. M. Pei & Partners, before forming his own firm, Stephen Yablon Architect PLLC, in 1995.

The firm designs academic, visual, and performing arts centers; health-care facilities; single family houses; community centers; and innovative workplaces. Their clients have included the National Park Service, the City of New York, Columbia University, St. John's University, SONY, the New York City Housing Authority, and numerous private and non-profit organizations.

Stephen Yablon Architect PLLC recently won an international competition for a visitor's pavilion on the "Big Dig" in Boston and was awarded second place in a Royal Institute of British Architect's competition for a sustainable corporate headquarters in Northern England. The firm has been selected twice for Mayor Bloomberg's prestigious Design Excellence Program for the City of New York.

A dramatic light-filled boxing arena forms the centerpiece of one of Yablon's most recent buildings, a \$12.5 million community center in the South Bronx for the New York City Housing Authority. "The building is a focal point for the community and expresses its pride in a legendary youth boxing program [located there]," he says.



Courtesy Photo

Stephen Yablon founded his own architectural firm, and he has won several design competitions and awards for his recent projects.

The project won a Design Excellence Award from the National Society of Registered Architects and was one of nine New York projects selected for the recent AIA exhibit *Berlin/New York Dialogues*, shown in both Berlin and New York.

With each project, Yablon tries "to create a clear, strong expression of an idea that synthesizes something unique about the site and client using contemporary materials and sustainable strategies. I've always been inspired by the modernist movement and find it an endless source of ideas."

One thing Yablon enjoys most about architecture is being able to "work with people when things are going well for them ... it's very exciting to help clients create a physical expression of their aspirations," he says.

Washington University helped him get where he is today, Yablon says. "I was lucky that the University had such a great architecture school. I had some very influential professors," he says. "I also took a lot of wonderful courses in the liberal arts curriculum that gave me a more rounded education."

Another of Yablon's passions is his family. "What I am most proud of in my life are my two kids [a son and a daughter]," he says.

He has been married to his wife, Suzanne Nutt, for 24 years. She is the chief operating officer at his architectural firm.

"She and I work very closely on all strategic decisions," Yablon says. "It's amazing, since it has really worked and brought us even closer together."

To learn more about Yablon's work and view some of his recent projects, visit [www.syarch.com](http://www.syarch.com). —Blair Leible Garwitz



**Olson**, EN 03, announce the birth of Henry Carl on Jan. 25, 2008.

**Philip Tidwell**, AR 04, was awarded a Fulbright scholarship and attended the Helsinki University of Technology in Finland to study wood architecture in the Nordic countries.

**Cristina R. Fernandez**, LA 05, is attending medical school at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons.

**Peter H. LaFontaine**, LA 05, moved to Washington, D.C., and is looking for a job in the environmental field.

**David R. Barrett**, LA 06, is an editor for *Business Wire* in San Francisco. He also ran the Boston Marathon on April 21, 2008; his official time was 2:59:31.

**Valerie M. Blanco**, LA 06, is a student at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School.

**Kristin M. Castillo**, LA 06, is a first-year medical student at Harvard Medical School.

**Noel Fehr**, GB 06, is vice president of Coldwell Banker Commercial CRA LLC, which is headquartered in St. Louis.

**Shara P. Siegel**, LA 06, is a 2008 Coro Fellow in Public Affairs in Pittsburgh. The program is a national, nine-month, full-time, post-graduate experience designed to educate and train ethical and effective leaders in the nonprofit, business, and government sectors.

**Jack Dabrowski**, GB 07, was named president of the St. Louis Junior Chamber of Commerce. Dabrowski is product manager at Allied Healthcare Products Inc.

**Alejandra Figueroa-Claevega**, LA 07, received a 2008 Gilliam Fellowship for Advanced Study from Howard Hughes Medical Institute. The fellowship provides full support for up to five years of study toward a doctorate. Figueroa-Claevega wants to attend a graduate program where she can combine her interests in infectious diseases, genetics, and public health. She wants to find better ways to diagnose and treat river blindness, the second leading cause of blindness worldwide. She hopes to establish her own research lab in Honduras someday, where she can study diseases that affect people in her native country.

**Sylvia L. Hardy**, FA 07, is working on a photography series in New York City. She plans on traveling to Germany for a few months in summer 2008.

## In Memoriam

### 1920s

**Rawlings Brewer, Jr.**, EN 27; Jan. '08, • **Stanley H. Herdlein**, DE 29; Jan. '08

### 1930s

**Virginia (Farrar) Ruane**, LA 31; March '08 • **Olga M. Moser**, LA 34; March '08 • **Gertrude (Landesman) Rosenblum**, LA 34, SW 42; Dec. '07 • **Sylvia (Pollock) Weinstein**, SW 34; Feb. '08 • **Irvin H. Landwehr**, EN 36; Dec. '07 • **Valeta (Kern)**

**Wisuri**, LA 36, LW 41; Dec. '07 • **Dorothea (Johnson) Evans**, LA 37; Dec. '07 • **Alfred Gellhorn**, MD 37; March '08 • **Catharine (Bull) Von Brecht**, SW 37; Jan. '08 • **Barbara (Jovanovich) Delunas**, BU 38; March '08 • **Anita (Koester) Fischer**, LA 38; Feb. '08 • **Virginia (Herrick) Foster**, NU 38; June '07 • **Albert L. Goodman**, LA 38; Jan. '08 • **Frank R. Kennedy**, LW 39; Feb. '08 • **Margery (Hegel) Stumpf**, LA 39; March '08

### 1940s

**Richard I. Cavanagh**, BU 40; Aug. '07 • **Robert W. Gordon**, BU 40; Feb. '08 • **Arthur K. Howell, Jr.**, EN 40; March '08 • **Sylvia (Horowitz) Sachs**, LA 40; March '08 • **Geraldine (Eichelsbach) Thorp**, LA 40; Feb. '08 • **Charlotte (Sherwin) Toon**, LA 40; Aug. '07 • **Edward A. Mason**, LA 41, MD 44; Dec. '07 • **Donald K. McEachern**, BU 41; Aug. '07 • **William F. McGinnis**, MD 41; Dec. '07 • **Wilma Jean (Engel) Messing**, LA 41; March '08 • **Conrad G. Mueller, Jr.**, LA 41, GR 42; Dec. '07 • **Charles P. Orr**, LA 41; Dec. '07 • **Lillian (Graefe) Stock**, NU 41; March '08 • **Marvin W. Goldenhersh**, LW 42, LW 43; July '07 • **Felix P. Kinsley, Jr.**, EN 42; Jan. '08 • **Angelo J. Madonia**, MD 42; June '07 • **Elizabeth (Stevens) Reck**, LA 42; Dec. '07 • **Shirley (Myers) Voda**, FA 42; March '08 • **Robert C. Bown**, EN 43; Jan. '08 • **Benjamin S. Greenwood**, MD

43; Sept. '07 • **Eugene H. Kissel**, EN 43; April '07 • **William E. Lawrence**, MD 44; Sept. '07 • **Mary Jane (Bowler) Stewart**, GR 44; Jan. '08 • **Martha Ann (Dean) Widmer**, LA 44; Jan. '08 • **Ada Blood**, NU 46; Feb. '08 • **Arthur J. Edwards**, GR 46; Nov. '07 • **Arthur A. Porporis**, LA 46, MD 48, HS 55; Feb. '08 • **Paul H. Young, Jr.**, BU 46; Dec. '07 • **Gregory C. Zotos**, DE 46; Feb. '08 • **Nancy (Schwarz) Ashby**, LA 47; Jan. '08 • **Kenneth H. Brune**, BU 47; Feb. '08 • **Ruth (Sartorius) Cady**, BU 47; Dec. '07 • **Robert J. Donnell**, EN 47; Nov. '07 • **Robert S. Goldenhersh**, LW 47; Feb. '08 • **Herbert W. Illingworth, Jr.**, LA 47; Dec. '07 • **Maxine J. (Schneider) Jacks**, LA 47; Feb. '08 • **William C. Milks, Jr.**, EN 47; Dec. '07 • **Julia (Liebreich) Solomon**, FA 47; Dec. '07 • **Patricia Baron Ash**, LA 48; March '07 • **Homer C. Bishop**, SW 48; Nov. '07 • **Mary J. Donzelot**, GR 48; March '08 • **George R. Field**, EN 48; Dec. '07 • **Vernon R. Hoffman**, BU 48; Feb. '08 • **Joseph C. Waldner**, EN 48; Dec. '07 • **Wallace D. Bowman**, LA 49, GR 53; Dec. '07 • **Darlene M. Downie**, FA 49; Jan. '08 • **Stevenson Flanigan**, LA 49, MD 53; Nov. '07 • **Minot P. Fryer**, HS 49; Feb. '08 • **Henry C. Hoener**, EN 49; Feb. '08 • **Thomas E. Killeen III**, LA 49; Feb. '08 • **Theodore R. P. Martin**, BU 49; Feb. '08 • **Eugene W. J. Pearce**, MD 49; Feb. '08 • **Marvin Rosecan**, MD 49; Oct. '07 • **James H. Rowe**, LA 49; Jan. '08 • **William W. Schweikert**, EN 49; Jan. '08 • **William M. Ziervogel**, AR 49; Feb. '08

### 1950s

**Allan S. Barton**, LW 50; March '08 • **Helen (Gray) Ice**, MD 50; Dec. '07 • **David Klearman**, BU 50; March '08 • **William J. Lee, Jr.**, LA 50; Nov. '07 • **William L. Ottenad**, BU 50; Nov. '07 • **J. Rogers Vien**, LA 50; March '08 • **E. Franklin Williams**, DE 50; July '07 • **Ronald J. Yalem**, LA 50; Feb. '07 • **Shirley (Glazener) Anderson**, LA 51; Dec. '07 • **Anne L. (Wingfield) Avery**, UC 51; Feb. '08 • **Robert L. Clodfelter**, LA 51, GR 52; Feb. '08 • **Robert H. Craft**, BU 51; Jan. '08 • **John B. Danforth**, LA 51; Feb. '08 • **John P. McCammon, Jr.**, LA 51; Dec. '07 • **Donald H. Pierce**, UC 51; Jan. '08 • **Edward J. Thias**, AR 51; Feb. '08 • **Mildred L. Brocksmith**, NU 52; Dec. '07 • **John Dengler**, BU 52; Jan. '08 • **Wilbert E. Diel**, GR 52; Nov. '07 • **Robert J. Hoehn**, LA 52, MD 56; March '08 • **Benjamin E. Berry**, AR 53; Feb.

## ClassMates

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'08 • Robert L. Borgstede, GR 53, LA 53; March '08 • Albert J. Kern, BU 53; Jan. '08 • Ida Ann (Miller) Mueller, LA 53; Feb. '08 • Walter C. Bauer, MD 54; Feb. '08 • Gene R. Smith, EN 54; Feb. '08 • William J. Swigart, GB 54; July '05 • Robert L. Cramer, EN 55; Dec. '07 • William H. Crawford, GR 55; April '07 • James H. Glenn, MD 55; Nov. '07 • Paul R. Potthoff, BU 55; Feb. '08 • Charlotte R. Price, SW 55; Dec. '07 • Julia S. Price, LA 55; July '07 • Donald K. Davis, LA 56, LW 58; Oct. '07 • Mildred B. (Sutton) Ottman, LA 56; Feb. '08 • Walter T. Peiper, SW 56; Jan. '08 • Cleon O. Swayzee II, LA 56; Feb. '08 • Julia (Boultinghouse) Backerman, BU 57; Feb. '08 • Frank M. Cleary, UC 57, GB 68; Dec. '07 • Ronald C. Heidemann, LA 57; March '08 • Charles A. Lebens, EN 57; Jan. '08 • William R. McNeilly, EN 57; Feb. '08 • Russell G. Shaver, GR 57; March '08 • Carr E. Smith, EN 57; Feb. '08 • John J. Waidmann, Sr., UC 57; Feb. '08 • Fraydoun Adib, UC 58; Jan. '08 • Malcolm B. Bowers, Jr., MD 58; Jan. '08 • Robert L. Dunn, BU 58; Dec. '07 • Wilbur L. Ketchum, LA 58; Nov. '06 • Robert M. Lutz, DE 58; Jan. '08 • Gerald A. Gorline, EN 59, SI 66; Jan. '08 • Richard M. Parker, GR 59; March '08

#### 1960s

Arnold F. Friedeck, EN 60; Feb. '08 • Donald A. McSparron, LA 60; Oct. '07 • Robert L. Segar, EN 61, GR 65; Dec. '07 • Robert C. Wilcox, UC 61; Dec. '07 • Richard P. Jost, UC 62; Dec. '07 • Felice (Ozerowicz) Massie, GR 62; Dec. '07 • Jack J. Nakamura, DE 62; Nov. '07 • Thomas M. Nelson, UC 62; Feb. '08 • Warren J. Barrios, UC 63; Jan. '08 • Robert L. Everett, TI 63; Aug. '07 • Terrell R. McLemore, UC 63; Jan. '08 • Peter Ohlhausen, AR 63, AR 65; March '08 • Eileen Rosenthal, LA 63; Feb. '08 • Lennart N. Thunstrom, GB 63; Jan. '08 • Brenda G. Goranflo, LA 64; Dec. '07 • Edwin C. Pidgeon, UC 64, UC 66; Feb. '08 • Eleanore (Tobin) Kenney, GR 65; Dec. '07 • Robert A. Shields, UC 65; March '08 • William W. Bell, LA 66; Nov. '07 • Markham

"Mark" Fischer, MD 66; Nov. '06 • Tsuyoshi Goka, EN 66, SI 72; March '07 • Kenneth J. Sliment, UC 66; Feb. '08 • Starly Thompson, TI 66; March '08 • Richard H. Dorrough, LA 67; Dec. '07 • Robert C. Hillman, Jr., UC 67; Jan. '08 • Donald H. Kiern, UC 67; Jan. '08 • Joyce A. Leadford, UC 67; Jan. '08 • Richard A. Osborn, GA 67; Jan. '08 • Warren H. Stockhecker, UC 67; Feb. '08 • James Stephen Fossett, GB 68; Sept. '07 • Lawrence J. Goldstein, UC 68; Jan. '08 • Gus Salomon, TI 68, TI 72; Feb. '08 • Ellen (Ross) Hauser, LA 69; March '08 • Milton J. Kessler, UC 69; Dec. '07 • Frank E. Kiang, GR 69; Dec. '07

#### 1970s

Carney T. Fisher, GR 70; Jan. '08 • Richard E. Lister, TI 70; Dec. '07 • John B. Krel, UC 71; July '07 • Gertrude Lorraine (Roenigke) Loftis, GR 71; Feb. '08 • Peter L. Strubel, SW 71; Aug. '07 • Theresia C. Burkart, UC 72; Dec. '07 • Catherine Dunlap, UC 72, UC 74; Feb. '08 • Marilyn (King) Warren, GR 72; Dec. '07 • Richard A. Forsberg, EN 73; Dec. '07 • Jay Michael Ring, BU 76; Dec. '07 • Mary Lynn (Brodie) Skiles, GR 76; Dec. '07 • Margaret (Walker) Skinner, GR 76; Jan. '08 • Michael R. Bedford, SI 77; Feb. '08 • Kenneth M. Filcoff, EN 77, GB 79; Feb. '08 • Janine (Yohai) Juster, FA 77; Dec. '07 • Gayle (Kramer) Grommet, GR 78; Dec. '07 • Gregory J. Mantych, LA 78; Dec. '07 • Paul R. H. Martin, EN 79, EN 80; Dec. '06

#### 1980s

Betty (Alwin) Benson, SW 82; Dec. '07 • Norella (Cota) Huggins, LW 82; Jan. '08 • Marjorie (Jenkins) Chadwick, UC 83; Dec. '07 • Lewie A. Watkins III, TI 88; Feb. '08 • Richard D. Turley, EN 89; Aug. '07

#### 2000s

Andres Pacheco Gallardo, GL 05; Jan. '08 • Dustin C. Locke, SI 06; Nov. '07 • Derek D. Butler, GB 07; Aug. '07

## In Remembrance

### D. Joseph Demis

D. Joseph Demis, a former dermatology professor at the School of Medicine, died Saturday, March 8, 2008.

He received his training in dermatology at Walter Reed Army Hospital in Washington, D.C.

When he was appointed to professor and chairman of dermatology at Washington University, he was the youngest chairman of a major dermatology department. During his career, Demis received the Rockefeller Foundation Endowed Chair, co-authored the encyclopedia text *Clinical Dermatology*, and maintained a small private practice.

### James Stephen Fossett

James Stephen "Steve" Fossett, M.B.A. '68, an adventurer and businessman, died on Monday, September 3, 2007.

After working at Merrill Lynch, Fossett opened his own brokerage firms, Lakota Trading, Marathon Securities, and Larkspur Securities, before retiring in 1990.

Devoted to endurance sports, he competed in the Iditarod sled dog race, the Ironman triathlon, and even swam the English Channel. Overall, Fossett set 117 official world records, among them five circumnavigations of the globe. He was a member of the U.S. National Aeronautical Hall of Fame and received a gold medal from the International Aeronautics Federation.

Fossett also served as a member of the Washington University Board of Trustees.

### Carlton C. Hunt

Carlton C. Hunt, former head of the Department of Physiology at the School of Medicine, died Friday, February 8, 2008.

A distinguished neurophysiologist, Hunt made important contributions to the understanding of sensory innervation in muscle. While at the University, he built a department that was nationally recognized for its excellence in neurophysiology, biophysics, and cell biology.

Hunt received a Distinguished Achievement Award in 1997 from the Association of Chairmen of Physiology. In 2007, he joined the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

### Felice Massie

Felice Massie, M.A. '62, a lecturer in Spanish literature and in Abstract Expressionist art at Washington University, died Wednesday, December 30, 2007.

Massie came to the United States from Poland and graduated from Washington University. She then began collecting paintings from several artists who were pioneers of Abstract Expressionism. She used her art collection to support philanthropic causes, endowing the Edward Massie Lectureship in Cardiology in honor of her husband and the Felice Massie Visiting Professorship in Romance

Languages and Literatures at the University.

Massie gave to the Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis, which had awarded her a small grant that made it possible for her to attend Washington University.

### Margaret W. Skinner

Margaret W. Skinner, Ph.D. '76, professor of otolaryngology and director of the Cochlear Implant and Hearing Rehabilitation Program, died Friday, January 11, 2008.

Skinner worked in audiology for more than four decades, earning an international reputation in auditory rehabilitation. She was a pioneer in the field of cochlear implants to help patients who do not benefit from hearing aids.

She began as a lecturer at the University in the Department of Speech and Hearing in 1977, eventually becoming a professor in 1997 in the Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery. She became director of the Cochlear Implant and Hearing Rehabilitation Program in 1984.

### Jarvis A. Thurston

Jarvis A. Thurston, professor emeritus of English and former chair of the Department of English in Arts & Sciences, died Monday, February 4, 2008.

Thurston was instrumental in establishing Washington University's Creative Writing Program and attracting a constellation of distinguished writers here.

He founded a magazine, *Perspective: A Quarterly of Literature*, with his wife, poet Mona Van Duyn. Thurston served as editor until it ceased publication in 1975.

Regarded as a key figure in discovering some of the nation's best literary talent, Thurston published the early writing of several of his Washington University colleagues in *Perspective*.

### John Zaborszky

John Zaborszky, senior professor of electrical and systems engineering, died Friday, February 1, 2008.

After graduating from the Royal Hungarian Technological University, Zaborszky worked for the university as a docent and was the chief engineer for the Municipal Power System in Budapest.

He moved to the United States in 1947 and joined Washington University in 1954. In 1974, he became the founding chairman of the Department of Systems Science and Mathematics, a position he held until 1989.

The School of Engineering established the Zaborszky Distinguished Lecture Series in 1990 to honor Zaborszky for his distinguished career.

## Correction

The editors regret that Betty Jean (Jackson) Miller, UC 48, and Marjorie (Friday) Young, LA 46, were incorrectly listed as deceased in the spring issue of the magazine.





# Transforming GRADUATE EDUCATION

BY LISA CARY

**"I**'ve been very lucky: Serving as dean provided me the opportunity to do a lot of good for a lot of people, and I've enjoyed it tremendously," says Robert E. Thach, outgoing dean of the Graduate School of Arts & Sciences (GSAS).

Thach is stepping away from his administrative post at the top of his game. His work over the last 15 years endowed the deanship with an international reputation for leadership and innovation.

Far from resting on his laurels, Thach is simply moving on to other challenges: teaching in the Department of Biology in Arts & Sciences and devoting more time to his research in epidemiology. In his lab, he focuses on diseases in large populations, including detecting the natural sources of infectious disease epidemics.

Thach is, above all, a problem solver. When he took the GSAS deanship—which oversees all aspects of the Ph.D. and M.A. degree programs—in 1993, the academic world suffered from an oversupply of doctoral candidates. And these candidates competed for a limited number of academic positions.

After crunching the numbers, Thach knew it was time to inject more realism into the career goals and financial needs of his graduate students. "We decided it was time to make fundamental changes in the way we supported our graduate students," he says.

### Blazing the trail

Thach implemented new measures, emphasizing quality over quantity, in 1994. That fall, he reduced the incoming class of Ph.D. candidates by about 25 percent, allowing the University to offer increased financial support to each student. "We were the first university to provide financial support to doctoral students for six years—instead of the usual three—through a combination of fellowships and teaching assistantships," Thach says.

The changes brought about immediate and dramatic results. Reducing the class size allowed the University to be more selective in choosing its graduate students. By 1996, the average Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores of those offered admission increased by 8 to 10 percentage points. Students received more individual attention, and the attrition rate dropped by 30 percent in the first two years of the new plan.

"Bob understood the needs of the students and how they learned," says Chancellor Emeritus William H. Danforth (chancellor from 1971 to 1995). "He helped us

all understand how to strengthen graduate education."

Because the University's added financial support freed students from the need to earn money, they could complete their programs more quickly. "The improvement in our time-to-degree performance was across the board," says Thach, "from the biological and physical sciences to the humanities and social sciences."

News about the dramatic gains spread quickly through academic circles. The program became a model for other top graduate schools. "Clearly, Washington University has taken a leadership role in providing first-rate doctoral education," noted the late Jules LaPidus, then-president of the Council of Graduate Schools in Washington, D.C., in a 1996 paper.

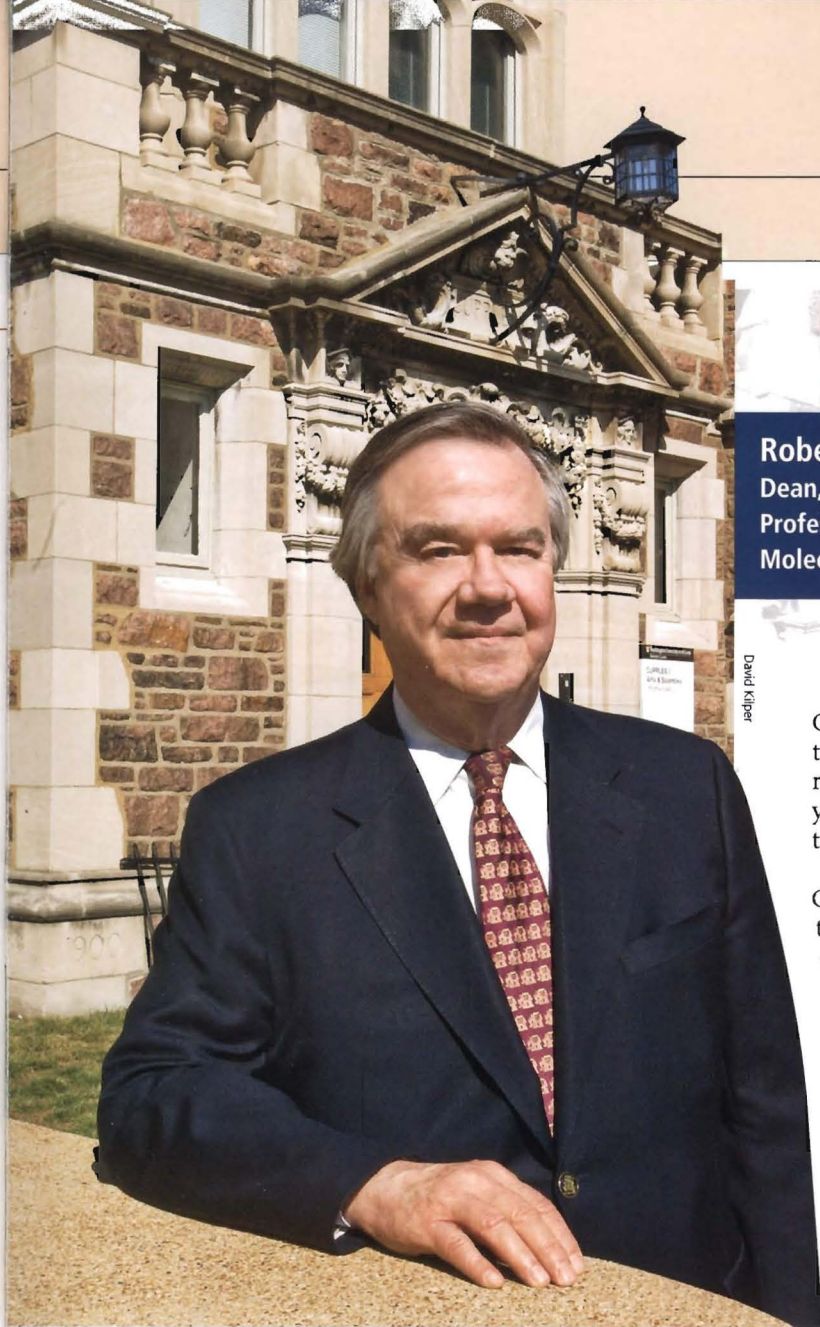
**"The improvement in our time-to-degree performance was across the board," says Thach, "from the biological and physical sciences to the humanities and social sciences."**

In 2000, the University was invited, along with the University of Michigan–Ann Arbor and University of Washington–Seattle, to help organize the "Responsive Ph.D. Initiative," begun by the respected Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation. The initiative sought to identify challenges and implement improvements in American doctoral education. During part of its five-year span, Thach chaired the Dean's Advisory Group, which guided activities as the number of participants grew to include 20 graduate school deans from leading research universities.

Together, the deans identified priorities for graduate education and made commitments to develop ways to support these priorities within their own institutions. The key measures included increasing diversity, addressing globalization, seeking new ways to apply academic knowledge to social challenges, and improving professional development of doctoral students in a full range of careers.

"A national voice in graduate education, Dean Thach provided strong and effective leadership during his tenure," says Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton. "Bob enhanced the quality of the graduate student experience, and he improved greatly the Ph.D. programs."





**Robert E. Thach,**  
Dean, Graduate School of Arts & Sciences,  
Professor of Biology, and of Biochemistry and  
Molecular Biophysics

David Kilper

## Empowering graduate students

Thach's own graduate school career was successful by any standard. After graduating *summa cum laude* in chemistry from Princeton University in 1961, he earned his doctorate at Harvard University. Working under renowned biochemist Paul Doty, Thach served as a teaching assistant for several Nobel laureates.

He joined Washington University's biological chemistry department faculty in 1970, and within two years, he began his first administrative duties as director of the Center for Basic Cancer Research (1972–1977). Thach then moved to the Danforth Campus to chair the biology department (1977–1981), where he continued to teach and do research until moving into administration full time as GSAS dean in 1993.

As dean, Thach worked to give graduate students a greater voice in their own education. Since 1994, he has chaired the Professional and Graduate Student Coordinating

Committee (ProGrads), a University-wide committee that includes student and faculty/administrative representatives from each of the seven schools. Each year the committee recommends three to five finalists to the University Board of Trustees as candidates.

In 2003 and 2005, Thach convened the National Conference on Graduate Student Leadership on the Danforth Campus. Attendees included teams of graduate student leaders and administrators from each of the 20 institutions involved in the Responsive Ph.D. Initiative. Panel discussions revolved around issues selected by the student delegates: professional development, student life, governance, and leadership.

Thach then took the initiative to an international scale in 2005, 2006, and 2007, when the University co-hosted International Graduate Scholarship conferences in Beijing, Shanghai, and Wuhan along with the Responsive Ph.D. Group and the China Scholarship Council. More than 500 of China's top college seniors, as well as representatives from Chinese and American universities, attended each conference.

"Because of Dean Thach's efforts," says Wrighton, "Washington University is a major leader in encouraging Chinese students to consider graduate education in the United States."

While Thach has enjoyed his administrative role, he looks forward to fresh challenges in the lab and classroom. He and his wife, Sigrid, will continue their frequent travels to Europe and watching their three grown children, Catherine, Robert Jr. (Ed), and Chris, make strides in their own careers.

"Bob is an outstanding colleague, and he greatly increased the profile of the University," says Edward S. Macias, executive vice chancellor and dean of Arts & Sciences. "We're fortunate that he's not leaving us altogether, but continuing with his research and instruction. I will continue to seek his advice and counsel on many issues." ■

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**First Lady of American Science** The U.S. Postal Service unveiled a Gerty Cori stamp at the School of Medicine on March 17. The stamp was one of four new stamps honoring American scientists. In 1947, Cori (1896–1957), a professor of biological chemistry at the University, became the first American

woman to win the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine. She shared the award with her husband, Carl, with whom she made important discoveries, including a new derivative of glucose. The stamp is unique in that it contains an error: In reproducing Cori's formula, the artist attached one of the lines to the wrong element.